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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1872. NO. 89.

FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

GREAT FLOODS IN ENGLAND.

Ministerial Crisis in Spain.

Affairs in France Toning Down.

Late Floods in England—Four Hundred Persons Lost at Sea.

LONDON, December 20.—Portions of the country in Leicestershire, Derby and Nottingham are submerged from the late floods. In some sections of these counties the tops of trees and hedges are only visible. Heavy land slides have occurred near Dover, and communications with that town have been interrupted. The town of Petersborough, in Northampton county, is flooded. Many of the inhabitants have been compelled to take refuge in the upper stories of their dwelling houses.

Dispatches from Liverpool say: Four hundred and forty-nine persons, including passengers, are said to have perished by marine disasters during the past ten days. Thirty persons were lost by the sinking of the ship Matchless.

LONDON, December 20.—The river Cam has overflowed the vicinity of Cambridge. For miles it is like a swamp, and the streets of the city are flooded. Brookside and Eynesbury are deluged. The recent rain fall is estimated at fifty millions tons water.

The Ministerial Crisis in Spain.

MADRID, December 20.—The crisis in the Cabinet has occurred, the Ministers of Public Works, Finance and Colonies having retired. Senor Echegary has been appointed Minister of Finance, Senor Becerra Minister of Public Works, and Senor Mosquira Minister of Colonies. The sitting of the Cortes yesterday was suspended in consequence.

MADRID, December 20.—The Senate has definitely approved the clergy donation bill.

MADRID, December 20.—The newly appointed Ministers were presented to the King to-day, and took the oaths of office. Senor Lorilla had a long conference yesterday with Senor Rivero.

Progress of Conciliation in France.

PARIS, December 20.—The Committee of Thirty have appointed two sub-committees, which sit separately. The members of the committee express a great desire to come to an agreement with the government. The Monarchists no longer insist on confining the action of the committee to the relations of the Executive and the Legislature. The dismissal of the Mayor of Nantes promotes this conciliatory spirit. The committee already approve of the theory of a second Chamber, but await the government's plan for the organization before proceeding to discuss the matter in detail. The first subject taken in hand by the committee will be the supremacy of the veto power.

The Assembly to-day voted by 544 to 107 the supplies for 1873, as estimated in the budget of the Minister of Finance.

All the members of the municipal government of Nantes have resigned, in consequence of the removal of the Mayor. The Paris press generally regard the step taken by the President in this matter as an indication of a conservative policy. The Radical papers do not attempt to conceal their indignation.

The Minister of the Interior is consulting with the Prefect and Mayor of Lyons as to the expediency of suppressing the existing municipal government in that city, on account of the pronounced Bonapartist views of its members, and dividing the city organization into several municipalities.

Victor Emanuel Ill.

ROME, December 20.—King Victor Emanuel has been indisposed since yesterday, having had an attack of rheumatic fever. His physicians do not consider his illness serious.

Floods in France—Gale at Naples.

PARIS, December 20.—It is reported that some of the bridges crossing the Seine in this city will be swept away by the flood.

NAPLES, December 20.—A gale of unprecedented violence swept over Naples yesterday. Much damage was done to property and shipping.

American Consul Welcomed.

LIVERPOOL, December 20.—A deputation from the American Chamber of Commerce waited to-day on General Lucius Fairchild, the newly appointed Consul of the United States at Liverpool, and tendered him a hearty welcome.

Specie in the Bank of France.

PARIS, December 20.—The specie in the Bank of France has decreased to the amount of five hundred thousand francs during the past week.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, December 20.—The British corvette Challenger will sail from Portsmouth to-morrow for the purpose of making scientific deep sea soundings.

George King has confessed that he murdered Pook at Greenwich.

The funeral of Vicountess Beaconsfield took place yesterday. The remains were deposited in the family vault in the churchyard of Hughenden. The obsequies were strictly private and of touching simplicity.

Special prayers were offered in the churches yesterday for the success of the missionary enterprises of the Church of England.

LONDON, December 21. 6 A. M.—Count Von Buest, Austrian Ambassador to Great Britain, has gone to Vienna, probably to assume higher functions.

There are fears that the steamship Shannon, which sailed from Montreal for Hull, has foundered. The Asprey, from Quebec, has arrived at Hull.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 20, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 91¾@91¾, and for account 91¾. American securities—5-20s, of '65, 89¾; do '67, 89¾; 10-40s, 88¾; new 5s, 89¾; Erie, 49¾. Whale oil £40 10s. Linseed oil £33 15s@£34.

FRANKFORT, December 20.—United States bonds—5-20s of '62, 95¾.

PARIS, December 20.—Rents 5i francs 55 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 20.—Cotton quiet and steady; middling uplands 10¼@10⅝d; Orleans 10⅝@10¾d; sales 12,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export; sales during the week for speculation and export, 75,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for amounted to 112,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for export and 26,000 for speculation; stock 300,000 bales; American 86,000 bales; receipts 46,000 bales; American 19,000 bales; actual export 4,000 bales; speculation 2,000 bales; stock 247,000 bales. American, actual 222,000 bales; speculation and export 25,000 bales; breadstuffs firm. California white wheat averaged 12s 2d@12s 5d; club 12s 9d@13s; red spring 11s@11s 9d; red winter 11s 9d. Corn 28s 3d. Oats 2s 6d. Mess pork 69s. Lard 38s. Cheese 64s. Cumberland middles 28s; short rib middles 28s. Refined petroleum 10½@10¾d. Receipts of wheat during the past three days amounted to 41,000 quarters; American 29,000 quarters. Receipts of corn during the past three days amounted to 10,000 quarters; American 2,000 quarters. Yarns and fabrics at Manchester are firm, with an upward tendency.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1872, 5 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England and Middle States fresh and occasionally brisk northerly to westerly winds, clear and clearing weather and lower temperature, for the South Atlantic States northwesterly to northeasterly winds and clearing but partly cloudy easterly winds and clearing but partly cloudy weather, with lower temperature. For Gulf States partly cloudy to clear weather. For Kentucky and Tennessee clear weather. From Ohio valley to Lake Erie, upper lakes and Northwest generally clear and cool weather and north westerly to south westerly winds.

The Weather Report at Fault.

CHICAGO, December 20.—The great storm of yesterday and last night throughout the Northwest, occurred contrary to the predictions of the Weather Bureau of the War Department. For two days the weather prophet had been announcing clearing and fair weather, when it persisted in being cloudy, and after a dash of snow the night of yesterday, and yesterday with one of the most extensive storms witnessed for a long time. Twelve hours after the storm had generally commenced, the Weather Bureau came out with probabilities for to-day, predicting what had already occurred, that the sky was bright and clear this morning, although every thoroughfare was blocked with snow. This is but an illustration of the general unreliability of the predictions of the War Department for the Northwest and Mississippi valley.

Recount of the Votes at the Recent Election in Boston.

BOSTON, December 20.—The committee on recounting the votes for Mayor and Aldermen concluded the Mayoralty count this afternoon, and their figures elect Henry F. Pierce by a plurality of seventy-nine votes over Mayor Gaston. The recount of ballots in the Second ward show a mistake of about one hundred votes, and the Aldermanic figures in figuring up the votes for Aldermen, and a report will be made in full to the board on next Monday.

STATE POLITICS.

The Tioga *Agitator* names Hon. John I. Mitchell, of that place, as a candidate on the Republican side for the Speakership of the House of Representatives. Mr. Mitchell was a member of the last Legislature.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the Beaver *Radical* writes: "There will be no contest for the position filled so ably by Mr. Mann. The Constitutional Amendment recently adopted, making the State Treasurer elective by the people, takes away the power from the Governor, and leaves him by his election until a law is passed for an election by the people. The Legislature will pass a law authorizing an election next October."

One of the great triumphs of modern engineering will was achieved in the opening of the Hoosac tunnel, last week. It was known then that there was an error in the direction of the working lines, and it was stated to be less than one foot. Took place to enlarged, and the line carried through from the shaft to the end on Sunday night, and the total error was found to be five-eighths of an inch laterally, and one and a quarter inches in level, the depth being measured from the top of the mountain. Only those who appreciate the enormous difficulty of carrying a line into a tunnel 5,000 feet in length with its weight in old iron as a guide, but especially the exceeding delicacy of the process of carrying down of the thousand feet perpendicular. None of us can understand how great a triumph this marvellous accuracy was.

The Detroit *Free Press* says: "A boy named Frank James, whose parents live in the western part of the city, has, with the sole aid of a pocket knife, produced a wonderful work. Out of a pine block four inches square he has cut four horses, each of which carries a rider, and four dogs follow them, while all are in chase of a fox. Four of the riders use a trumpet, and the other guns, and everything is as nicely cut as if a professional carver had done the work."

XLII CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1872.

Mr. RICE asked to take up his resolution for a special committee to investigate the alleged irregularities in the Arkansas election.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, objected.

Mr. RICE offered a resolution for a commission to investigate the Arkansas election, saying that he did so to get the matter before the Senate. He then proceeded to detail the allegations of fraud against Republican officials in that State, charging that the returns were falsified to defraud the Conservative candidates of their elects.

Mr. CLAYTON said he was satisfied that the allegations of fraud made by his colleague were incorrect.

Mr. SHERMAN thought that the subject was a very proper one for inquiry. There were two sets of electors claiming the right to cast the vote of that State, and it was proper that the Senate should ascertain which of them had the right to cast the vote of the State. He would therefore favor referring the subject to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and if the committee saw proper it could authorize a sub-committee to undertake the investigation.

Pending further discussion, Mr. WINDOM called for the regular order, the Indian Appropriation bill. He then moved to lay the Indian Appropriation bill on the table, which being agreed to, he said that the Committee on Appropriations had considered the Deficiency Appropriation bill and approved of it. He therefore moved to discharge the committee from the further consideration of the bill, his purpose being to bring it before the Senate for immediate action.

Mr. EDMUNDS raised the point of order that the motion made by Mr. Windom must lie over for one day.

The chair submitted the question to the Senate and it was decided that the motion could not be made—ayes, 22; nays, 22.

Mr. WINDOM then said, although the bill could not now become a law, still it would be a source of comfort to the poor people who were interested in it to know it would be passed as soon as the Senators came back from their holiday festivities. He now asked unanimous consent to have the bill considered to-day, and he now reported it from the committee. The bill was then taken up.

Mr. EDMUNDS declared that he should not consent to vote a lump appropriation for the Department of Public Works. He insisted that there should be an investigation as to whether they had expended moneys with propriety.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, believed in the main that the board had acted with fairness and justice and according to law.

Mr. EDMUNDS moved an amendment that the Secretary of the Interior shall reimburse the Board of Public Works such reasonable expenditures only as were incurred in repairing improvements in front of government property. Rejected—ayes 16, nays 20.

Mr. EDMUNDS then moved an amendment that the amount appropriated shall be paid only on approval of the prices named by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and Grounds. Adopted—ayes 22, nays 21.

The bill then passed and now goes to the House for concurrence in the amendments.

The Senate then, after Executive session, adjourned until January 6th.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A call of the House showed thirteen less than a quorum. Time was consumed in calling the yeas and nays on a motion to adjourn. Finally the struggle to keep the House in session was abandoned, and it adjourned till January 6th.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 20, 1872.

BEER BREWERS COMBINATION.

The beer brewers of this State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Maine, met here yesterday for the purpose of forming an organization in their several States to oppose the additional tax of three and a half cents per barrel, and to secure State legislation in their favor.

THE TWEEDY ENTOURAGE.

Hon. William Orton stated to-day that George W. Curtis had not been approached on the subject of the editorship of the *Tribune*.

THE NEW MINISTER TO RUSSIA.

Judge Orr, of South Carolina, accepts the Russian mission and will sail for Europe about the middle of January, though he prefers not to encounter the rigors of the St. Petersburg climate until the middle of March.

NO JURY YET.

No additional jurors were secured in the Stokes case to-day.

ASYLUM OUTRAGES.

The special Commission appointed to investigate the Bloomingdale and other asylum outrages have began their investigation of the management of Ward's Island Asylum to-day. Dr. Helencria and others were examined.

POSTOFFICE THIEF.

Richard Brandon has been arrested for robbing the postoffice of two hundred and eighty mail bags. He confessed, said he had no accomplices, and was committed for trial.

THE POISON CASE.

In the Anderson poisoning case to-day the accused, Dr. Irish, was admitted to the witness stand, and corroborated the never had an altercation with Mrs. Anderson; also relative to the facts of her husband's illness and death, and confirmatory of his having purchased the arsenic bought at his (witness's) store by Anderson himself.

DEATH OF PUTNAM, THE PUBLISHER.

George Palmer Putnam, the well known publisher of this city, died suddenly this evening. He had been at his store most of the day, and seemed in **remarkably good spirits. He was in the act of** writing a book in a chair when he fell suddenly to the floor, striking his head in his descent upon a projecting shelf. Help was at once summoned, who applied restoratives, but life was extinct. The cause of death was apoplexy.

THEATRE AGAIN.

George Francis Train was arrested this evening and locked up in the Station House, on a bench warrant, to answer a charge of publishing obscene literature.

Funded Debt of Ohio.

COLUMBUS, December 20.—The semi-annual report of the Ohio State Commissioners shows the receipts for the period ending November 15, 1872, were $838,845, and disbursements $638,845. There was on deposit in New York at date of report $1,05,319 for the purchase and redemption of Ohio State stocks. During the past six months $92,30 of the funded debt has been redeemed, and the amount outstanding November 15 was $8,562,546.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

James E. Thompson, a wealthy farmer of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, is believed to have absconded, leaving liabilities to the amount of $47,000. Twenty-three attachments have been issued upon his farm of seven hundred acres, on Crane river, and wife has sued for divorce on the ground of adultery.

Railroad trains in New Hampshire have been delayed by snow. Like detention has occurred in the West.

Five hundred miners employed in mines at and in the immediate vicinity of Springfield, Illinois, have struck for an advance of twenty-five per cent. in their wages. Mine owners are determined to resist this demand, and the strike threatens to work. All those who appreciate the enormous difficulty of carrying a line into a tunnel 5,000 feet in length with its weight in old iron as a guide, but especially the exceeding delicacy of the process of carrying down of the thousand feet perpendicular. None of us can understand how great a triumph this marvellous accuracy was.

John L. Bray, confidential clerk of W. W. Chandler, general agent of the Red Star Union freight line, absconded to Canada from Chicago yesterday.

At an election in Galion, Ohio, yesterday, for municipal tax for the L. S. & M. R. R., of $95,000, was carried by a vote of 709 for to 213 against.

Some three hundred soldiers of the late war held a meeting at St. Louis, Thursday night, at which it was determined to petition the United States senate to pass the bill which passed the House on the 12th inst., giving to each soldier a quarter section of land, and passed a resolution requesting the Union soldiers throughout the country to take like action. Committees were appointed to procure signatures, of soldiers and citizens generally to the memorial. Another meeting will be held next week.

Samuel G. Turner, a prominent citizen of Northern Pennsylvania, died yesterday morning at Wilkesbarre.

Hon. Columbus Delano arrived at Havana yesterday.

A heavy northeast snow storm prevailed yesterday at Halifax.

The steamer St. Laurent, from Havre, bound for New York, put into Halifax yesterday for coal.

News from the Modoc Indian country states that Major Green was proposing to surround Jack, and had his command in readiness to move. The military move very slowly. The Indians offer to fight them ten to one, and will not surrender.

Through the negligence of a switch tender at Westerly, R. I., the train from Stonington for Providence, yesterday, collided with freight cars on a turn out, disabling the engine and damaging the cars. No lives lost.

At Columbia, S. C., yesterday, Judge Bond passed sentence on a number of Ku Klux prisoners, after which the United States Court adjourned for the term.

Col. Richard H. Wheeler was killed by the cars at Bolton Notch, Connecticut, on Thursday. He commanded an Ohio regiment during the war. He was thirty-eight years of age.

Special prayers were offered in the churches yesterday for the success of the missionary enterprises of the Church of England.

Eight inches of snow fell at Bangor, Me., Thursday night and yesterday, blocking railroads and delaying trains.

News received at San Francisco yesterday states that an attack by the Piutes is momentarily expected to take place. Capt. Jack's camp is not as difficult to be reached as was at first supposed. Modoc camped back of the old battle ground on Lost river, and charging troops to fight them; a few shots were exchanged without effect on either side.

The Pennsylvania Railroad in New Jersey.

[From the Philadelphia Ledger.]

The New Jersey Railroad litigation has attracted much attention, and occupied much space, for the last fortnight, and the result is now awaited with considerable anxiety by the public as well as by the parties more immediately interested. Two suits are pending. One involves the right, under claimed legal charters, to hold a railroad between Philadelphia and New York, in rivalry with the existing roads, and is a contest between the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The other suit is a contest between some of the old stockholders of the Camden and Amboy as to the validity of the lease made to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. If the former suit goes against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company it is a decision, as far as it goes, in favor of the construction of the proposed opposition or National line. If the second suit is against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company it breaks its lease, and if it cannot be remedied by making a new one more perfectly expending, the New Jersey works will revert to their owners as before the execution of the lease, with such repayments and equities as the Court may adjudge.

WAS MR. GREELEY INSANE?

His Condition at the Funeral of His Wife and Subsequently.

Testimony of the "Tribune" Foreman.

At a further hearing in relation to the will of Mr. Greeley on Wednesday, Mr. Thomas Rooker, called by the contestants, testified as follows:

I reside in Brooklyn; have lived there since the fall of 1840; have known the late Mr. Greeley since 1841: on the 9th of April of that year I associated myself with him as a compositor on the *Tribune*; afterward became the foreman, and have remained so up to the present time; have been in almost daily intimacy with Mr. Greeley ever since; he has visited my house on many occasions, and stopped with me over night sometimes—for two or three days when he has been ill or weary; have sometimes interfered with his financial transactions; a short time ago I protested against his selling *Tribune* shares to pay debts; he then informed me that he was selling that share for the purpose of paying a debt, and it was the last piece of paper which he would sign for anybody; he made a promise to me, but he dishonored my wife that he would not again indorse for any one.

Q. From all your knowledge, was his property less in amount during the last year of his life than during the former year? A. I know nothing about it.

Q. Were you present at the funeral of Mrs. Greeley? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you observe Mr. Greeley particularly? A. Yes, I observed that he was very strange, and my wife remarked it also; there was a look about him that seemed unearthly; he looked as if he did not know where he was; as if he had waked up out of a dream and was entirely lost; he looked to me like a man that was crazy.

Q. When after that did you see him? A. The next after that I saw him for the first time on the 11th of November.

Q. Where? A. In his room in the *Tribune* office.

Q. Describe what you saw? A. I heard he was in his room and I went up to greet him; he was apparently asleep in his chair; Mr. Clement was in the room, and when I saw that he was sleeping (I had heard that he could not sleep nor eat) I thought that I would not disturb him; as I was going he waked up and said, "Hooker, I want to see you;" I went back and he shook my hand and then went off in a doze again and said nothing; Mr. Cleveland left the room and Mr. Greeley remarked to me, "I am ruined, we are all ruined, we are all broken up; you have got some property; I have none; I want you to promise me that you will take care of Pomeroy." (The witness here was visibly affected.) I said, "Mr. Greeley, I will do so; I will give you my word; I will take care of them to the last cent I have;" I then thought—(objected to.) I then said, "Mr. Greeley, I wish you would come home with me; I believe if you will come to my house where you will see no one except my family, the rest will be quiet;" he said, "I do not feel so; I insisted on it; he told me, "No, I cannot go; I have been writing all day;" his desk was covered with paper written on, he said,

"I CAN'T WRITE ANYTHING THAT SUITS ME;"

he had written on Boston, on the effect of the fire on Wall street, and none of them suited him; Mr. Reid came in, and I said to Mr. Greeley has been trying to write something about Boston and Wall street, and says he cannot do it;" Mr. Reid said, "He need not write;" I said to him, "You take that manuscript and I will take him over to my house;" he said, "I will set Mr. Corydon to work at those articles;" while I was there urging him to go with me, Mr. Stone came in for the purpose of getting him over to his house; he then told Mr. O'Dwyer to go over to your office and say that he was not going to-day; I wanted him to go with me to stay a week or more; I thought I could talk with him about old times and cheer him up and bring him back; I went to my house and told my wife, "I will go when you want to go, at four or five o'clock;" he wouldn't give any answer, and I went over and got a carriage and took him over to my house.

Q. Judging from what you saw and heard at that interview, down to the time you got into the carriage, will you say whether in your opinion the state of his mind as to soundness or unsoundness I objected to, and admitted with exception.) A. I thought it was unsound.

Q. Proceed with your narration. A. I took him into the carriage and took him home about five o'clock to my house in Brooklyn; after he had gone in his room he came down stairs and laid down on the sofa, appeared to want to rest; my wife's sister came in and said, "Mr. Greeley, if you will lie down I will get you a pillow," and my wife got him a shawl, and he said there I suppose for an hour; my wife looked at him and asked me if I thought he was to wake him up; I told her "no," if he could sleep it would do him more good than anything; we went down to dinner; my wife's brother came in and we stayed down longer than usual on that account; then we came up and went into the front room, having about family affairs; after we had been there ten minutes he called me by name; he said, "Good, I have slept as much as I can sleep—let us talk;" so we all came in, but, instead of talking, he dropped off into his stupor again and so remained for some time; I thought I would try to get him into conversation and try to cheer him up; I went into the library and got a book of poems and read it to him; he took the book and found a poem and read it; he asked me if I had seen a book called "The Earth," the author's name I forget; I said I thought I had it; I went to the library and looked for it, but he told me, "That is the most awful book I have ever read;" he said it almost froze him to read it; he appeared very familiar with it; he then read me a poem and then read extracts from it; he requested my wife to tell my brother-in-law not to buy he had read that book, that he was not right, not himself; afterwards, about half-past nine o'clock, my wife said, 'You feel tired, Greely, perhaps you had better go to bed;' he said, "I will," and went up to his room, and in the morning per was up early reading a newspaper; I asked him how he felt, he said he did not know as he was any better or any worse; he then slept, and he said "About an hour;" I said, "It is a stormy day, why won't you stay here and not go over," but his brother-in-law told me he had not been well enough to be out;

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1872.

RECOLLECTION of the assassination of President Lincoln is brought afresh into the public mind by the application of the owner of the barn where *John Booth* took refuge, and which was burned, for indemnity. His petition is before the Senate Committee, he being almonished that at the establishing of his loyalty at the time being of prime importance.

IT APPEARS to be definitively settled that Mr. COLFAX will not become editor of the new *Tribune*, the conflict of interests having terminated so as to cut him off. Though he may not be so minded himself, not a few of Mr. COLFAX's friends will be disposed to congratulate him on his escape. By the way, could not the *Tribune* Association in breaking up have contrived to prevent the present scandal? The squabble, so soon after Mr. GREELEY's death, must be a source of deep and sincere regret on the part of his friends.

HOPES have been entertained in many quarters that Mr. BOUTWELL would forego his aspirations for the United States Senate and consent to remain at the head of the national finances. But these hopes, it appears, are not to be realized, as it is authoritatively announced that Mr. BOUTWELL fully intends to be a candidate for the Senate; and, furthermore, that in no event will he remain in the Cabinet longer than the close of *Gen.* GRANT's present term. His chances for Senator WILSON's place are thought to be rather more than good.

REFERRING to the triumph of PATTERSON, Senator elect from South Carolina, in getting clear of the charge of bribery, the New York *Sun* remarks:

"By the way, it would be interesting to know precisely how much Patterson paid these fellows for making the last batch of affidavits."

There are several things which would be "interesting" in the same connection, among the rest the opinion of Col. MCCLURE, at one time connected with PATTERSON, in South Carolina, and the causes which produced the estrangement which has not been reconciled even to the present day.

IF ONE were to believe certain partizan journals opposed to the administration the conviction would be inevitable that the finances of the country were in a bad way and the credit of the nation sadly off. How much importance should be given to such representations may be inferred from the fact, which came out before a Congressional committee a few days since, that the credit of the United States is in better standing in Europe to-day than of any other nation. Mr. BOUTWELL's own statement was that English consols could not be sold on the Continent. France sold her 5 per cent. loan for 84, and Germany and Russia sold theirs below par. The United States 5 per cent. loan went at par. The reason why English consols sold higher than American securities in London was that all trust funds in England were required by law to be invested in them, thus creating a very great home demand.

The Pittsburgh Post is as strong in "supposition" as it is weak in argument. In the course of an article condemnatory of the President for refusing to set aside the decision of the Federal Court of Louisiana, that paper queries—

"Suppose Judge MCKENNAN would issue his *rescript* forbidding Mayor BLACKMORE from acting in his office, and for his disobedience would issue process to arrest him; would the President be authorized to order the commandant at the Arsenal to bring in his regulars to aid the Marshal in arresting a State officer for disobeying a judicial order which had been illegally issued?"

This is almost equal to the vivid imagination which led the matronly MRS. TOODLES to purchase a second-hand door plate, under the "supposition" that it might possibly one day become useful as a family adjunct. Well, there is no more harm in our neighbor's "supposition" than there was in that of the ancient maid who, being once discovered in a terrible state of grief, sobbed out, when questioned as to the cause of her tears: "Suppose I should get married some day, and have a little baby, and it should fall into the fire, how the innocent darling would suffer!" Poor dear. Poor *Post*.

WHEN the Constitutional Convention adjourned to meet in Philadelphia early in January, the principal argument advanced in favor of such a course was that during the recess the committees would be able to meet and mature business, so that on coming together again the Convention could go ahead, and time would actually be gained. Although weeks have elapsed, it is understood that not a single committee has met, and there is every probability that the Convention will begin again where it left off, nothing having been gained, but something lost by the long recess. It is understood, also, that among delegates themselves there is not only a lack of interest, but a growing distrust of the ultimate outcome of the Convention. Concerning this, however, it is perhaps too early for a decided opinion; and certainly the public will be slow to conclude that there is ground for apprehending failure in a matter where so much was expected. In this connection it is reported that at least one and perhaps more delegates of prominence propose to resign from the Convention, allowing their places to be filled according to law. This certainly is not indicative of that hopefulness and zeal which existed at the outset.

ACCORDING to the statistical report of our foreign trade for the fiscal year ending June 30th, which has just been published, the general result of our trade does not make a good showing; the country having purchased goods to the value of sixty-eight millions of dollars more than it has sold, while we have sent abroad sixty-six million dollars worth of gold and silver toward making up the deficit. The following table shows the condition of our foreign trade for the last eight years:

Year ended	Imports.	Exports.	Re-exports.
June 30, 1872	$646,327,540	$549,219,718	$22,769,749
June 30, 1871	541,495,708	562,518,651	28,459,899
June 30, 1870	435,958,587	499,032,140	21,908,159
June 30, 1869	437,314,255	413,964,615	25,173,414
June 30, 1868	371,024,808	454,301,713	22,691,124
June 30, 1867	435,571,236	437,853,575	20,611,505
June 30, 1866	445,512,158	550,684,277	14,742,117
June 30, 1865	248,005,626	328,740,187	9,564,639

Were gold and silver bullion to be excluded from the total transactions of the past year, the adverse balance would be $134,481,918, a still more overwhelming balance of trade against us. An examination of the details of the report shows, however, one gratifying feature. There has been a marked gain in the exports of our domestic manufactures, the increase over the previous year being $9,069,158, or nearly twenty-four per cent. The lesson of the statement is that the country ought to address itself more seriously than it has heretofore done to the work of becoming self supporting.

THE rumor, to which we lately referred, that the lobby at Washington were making preparations for a desperate attempt to secure the passage of an act for the refunding of the cotton tax during the present session, turns out to have had a good foundation. One of the Representatives from Georgia has now introduced a bill providing for the issue of five per cent. gold interest bonds to the amount of the tax collected, the bonds to be delivered to the authorities of the several States whose citizens paid the tax, and to be by them distributed among the claimants. This is a huge speculation very poorly concealed. Should the bill be enacted, the greater part of the money would of course fall into the hands of the concoctors and promoters of the job. Two things are certain: First, that it is absolutely impossible to restore the money to those from whom it was really taken; and second, that nobody else has the slightest shadow of a claim to it. It is, indeed, affirmed on good authority that a settled agreement has been made that the cotton ring shall have one-half of the money, amounting in the aggregate to some seventy millions of dollars, if they succeed in pushing the claim through Congress. It is to be hoped that the House, which showed its steadfastness for reform on so many occasions during the last session, will see to it that the scheme is brought to grief.

WE SAID, in Thursday's paper, that the President took action with regard to the Louisiana difficulty only when the Constitution of the United States compelled him to do so, and that he did nothing which he was not bidden to do by the Constitution. The Pittsburgh *Post*, on the contrary, maintains that he was guilty of an arbitrary assumption of power in the course he pursued. Let us see about that. The Supreme Court of the United States decided that it had not the power to issue the writ of prohibition asked for against Judge DURELL's Court. The new Amendments to the Constitution, and the Enforcement Act, give the National Courts jurisdiction to try and decide cases where complaint is made that citizens have been deprived of fair elections; while the third article of the Constitution provides that the judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity arising under the Constitution. The President did nothing until the judicial power had made a decision, and invoked the aid of the Executive in its support, and therefore simply performed the duty imposed upon him as the servant of the Federal Court. All that he has done has been to see that the authority of the judiciary is respected. The *Post*, however, would have him subordinate the Bench to his personal will, making him the supreme judge alike of fact and of law. The COMMERCIAL does not believe in this sort of imperialism. The question is not as to whether Judge DURELL's decision was sound or otherwise, but whether the decree of the Court shall be recognized as law, until reversed or modified by a higher tribunal. The *Post* professes to consider this doctrine atrocious. It was not wont to do so, however, in the days when national Courts and United States Commissioners overrode the State authorities in enforcing the Fugitive Slave law. Has that paper any recollection of the military power of the government being invoked to sustain the decision of Federal judges under such circumstances? Did it make complaint that we were "traveling the downward road" then? Or has the principle since been changed—and if so, when and by whom?

RAILROADS AND THE PEOPLE.

No sensible man doubts that one of the great practical questions looming in the future is, or rather will be the regulation of the relation between the railroad corporations and the people. In some quarters the emergence of the subject may have been foreseen from the beginning as a necessary consequence of familiar economical and financial laws often before explified, and it is already many years since patent facts in American railroad operations forced the subject upon the attention even of people who, gifted with sharp eyes for their own advantage or disadvantage, seldom, if ever, concern themselves with questions of a merely speculative or theoretical interest. Those benighted peasants who, in England, used to turn out with mattocks and pitchforks to drive from their vicinage, the engineers engaged with level and measuring chain in laying out the "line" for the mysterious carriages which were intended to supersede horses and carts, were fiercely resolved against the *use* of an agency to them incomprehensible and terrible, and the less benighted, though almost equally uninstructed farmers and gardeners of Lancaster and Chester counties, who waged war upon the first railway through their lands, because they were sure it would flood the Philadelphia market with the products of Central Pennsylvania and the West, were animated by no dread of an abuse either of power or instrumentality. They were merely staunch conservatives, fully satisfied with things as they were, and certain that, whoever else might be benefitted, they themselves would be injured by a change.

These early protests of ignorance against a beneficent innovation are alluded to rather as one of the slighter curiosities of railway history than as having any analogy or relation to the complaints against the companies which are becoming every day more rife and earnest in some parts of the country. It is, however, not wholly unworthy of remark that, while these murmurs are heard almost everywhere, they are especially loud and menacing in those regions against which jealousy in the East was aroused by the first railroads, and which have been most strikingly, if not most really, benefitted by them. The Illinois *Staats Zeitung*, which circulates widely, with great influence among the German farmers of the Western States, in a recent issue, refers to the railway companies as the "modern robber-knights," a term as full of odium as any other to people among whom still live traditions of those unscrupulous gentry who flourished on the plunder which they exacted from the unarmed population around their strongholds, who were helpless to defend themselves, or their property.

According to the *Staats Zeitung*, the gigantic power attained by the railroad monopolists has been brought home to and especially felt by the farmers of the West during the last twelve months. In the process of converting their crops into money they are as utterly at the mercy of the railroad companies as the merchant of the Middle Ages was at the mercy of the bandits who watched the highways. It is they who determine how much of the price of the grain paid by the distant consumer shall go into the pocket of the farmer. They have only to adjust the rate of freight in order to exhort the latter to industry more effectual than Brigham Young takes from his Mormons. Whether the farmer shall pay two, three or four bushels of grain in order to convey one bushel to the English market; in other words whether he shall receive for his grain a third, a fourth or a fifth part of its reigning value in England, all this absolutely depends upon the good pleasure of the powerful "robber-knights of the railroads."

But this, says the *Staats Zeitung*, is not all. By establishing for shorter distances higher freight rates than for the entire length of the road, these robber-knights are able to compel the farmers to send their grain to certain chief stations, where robbers of another sort, the owners of granaries or warehouses collect from them another tribute toll. In comparison with this taxation of the labor of the people, the national, State and county taxes seem to our contemporary mere child's play. And while it is a form of taxation which has a directly depressing or even paralyzing effect upon industrial activity, the people themselves have nothing to do with its imposition. Though heretofore they have had nothing to do with the matter, the *Zeitung* is clearly of the opinion that as the result of the political development of the near future, the people are likely to exercise a very decisive influence in it. At any rate, the question, it thinks, will before long be decided whether or not this is to be the case. In fact, the State of Illinois has already taken the subject in hand, as its new constitution secures to the people in their organic character as a State the right of decisive interposition in the administration of the railroads. Naturally the railroad men resist this provision of the constitution, and like the "cotton and tobacco lords of the South" take refuge behind the bulwark of the courts. But, even if the courts should protect them, yet, says our contemporary, the DRED SCOTT decision proved that such artificial ramparts can not hold out against the spring flood of clearly defined popular conviction.

In conclusion, we are told that the State in this country is placed in the same position relative to the railway kings, in which the German Emperor in the middle ages was placed in reference to his feudal lords. At first entrusted with a certain portion of the sovereign power, these feudatories by cunning or by audacious resistance gradually assumed to themselves the power of the State and reduced the sovereignty of the Emperor to a shadow. In several of the States of the Union the Princes of the Iron Rail have already acquired a similar position in respect to the power of the State. They claim to be and are for all practical purposes sovereign, while the Legislatures which created them, representing the people, are their mere vassals. The time may not be very remote when the people of those States may find it unavoidable to resume or rather to assert their sovereignty and deal with these arrogant Princes even as the young Emperor of Japan lately dealt with his Daimios.

During the sessions of the Constitutional Convention, soon to reassemble, the relation of the railroad companies to the State, is one of the most important subjects to be considered and practically determined, and its discussion among the people cannot begin too early. And it is especially interesting to know what leading organs of opinion in other States are saying about the great question.

THERE has been so much crimination and recrimination on the part of the various warring factions in Arkansas, that it has been difficult for outsiders to get at the real truth of the matters at issue. Light, however, begins to dawn at last. The Little Rock *Gazette*, the official Democratic organ of the State, in an elaborate review of the situation, admits unequivocally that the Republican candidates, both State and Presidential, were fairly and legally elected by majorities of about three thousand, and warns the coalition that if they carry out their declared purpose of organizing a Legislature and inaugurating their Governor, they will deservedly get themselves into serious trouble. That paper calls upon law abiding Democrats in their ranks to have anything to do with the threatened revolution; insisting that the legally elected Governor must be inaugurated, and the legally chosen Legislature organized, and that all claimants to offices must make contest according to law. This is sensible advice, which, if followed, will avert mischief. It is curious, by the way, to note how much wiser in their counsel than those of the North the Democratic journals of the Southern States are becoming.

WE HAVE several times since the President's re-election, in view of the breadth and catholicity of his course with regard to public affairs, expressed the opinion that before his second term had half expired, he would, if he pursued the same even-handed way, find himself supported by the better element of the Democratic party almost as heartily as by the people who elected him. There are some indications that this may come to pass sooner than was expected. Iowa, for instance, is having a real political sensation in the open secession from the Democratic party and accession to the Republican ranks of General GEORGE W. JONES, one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of that State, a former Senator in Congress, a foreign Minister, and "a man," according to the Democratic Dubuque *Herald*, "at all times of weight, character and influence." He says, in giving his reasons for the step, that he believes the Republican party intends to be true to the whole country; that he has all confidence in the President's desire and design to promote retrenchment and reform; and that, upon the whole, looking at the subject in its largest aspect, he considers the administration party to be considerably more democratic, in the best sense of the term, than either wing of the faction at present opposed to it. Hence, as he expresses it, he has changed front, and "marched into the ranks of his opponents." The occurrence has created a decided sensation in political circles in Iowa and the West, where it is evidently acting as a powerful disintegrating force.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Our own people would do well to be on their guard. Dangerous counterfeit United States Treasury $5 notes are in circulation in Baltimore. The paper on which they are printed is too thin to take well the large amount of ink usually employed. The engraving compared with that of the genuine note, is rough, but the surest way to detect the true from the false is by the paper.

Very few people know that the Chief of the Cherokees is a graduate of Princeton College, and a man of culture; that the Cherokee Nation has a society organized on the model of modern civilizations, with newspapers, schools, court houses, and the like; or that the highest prizes for cotton were won at the St. Louis Fair by the Chickasaws. Nevertheless all of this is true.

A Witchita (Kansas) paper says that thousands upon thousands of buffalo hides are being brought here by hunters. In places whole acres of ground are covered with these hides, spread out with the fleshy side up to dry. It is estimated that there are, south of the Arkansas and west of Witchita, from one to two thousand men shooting buffalo for their hides alone.

A couple of scientific ladies have been investigating the circulation of the spleen, by means of injection and microscopic examination. Their researches were made on the spleens of frogs, pigeons, rabbits, mice, rats and various other animals, as well as of the human subject. They did not make any experiments on the temper of Democratic editors.

A genuine old romance has just come to light in Massachusetts in the return of a man to his kindred, after following the sea forty-five years. Thirty years ago he was reported dead, and on his return his brother failed to recognize him, and would not be convinced until he was permitted to examine his ankle, which had been cut when he was a boy.

A noticeable feature of the foreign export trade of the year 1872 is that the shipment of corn has prevailed largely over that of previous years, especially at the ports of New York and Boston, fully equal in money value to the shipment of wheat from San Francisco to Europe, thus showing that the inherent value of the cereal is becoming more appreciated by those who demand cheap food.

New Jersey is thriving remarkably. The table of assessed valuation of taxable real and personal estate for this year shows an increase over the last of nearly twenty millions of dollars, or an aggregate of $603,695,497. It should be recollected, too, that the assessed valuation of real estate is in many cases not half its real value.

The *Woman's Journal* expresses the hope that the women of America will come to a general agreement not to offer wine to their guests during the approaching Christmas and New Year's festivities, and calls upon the ladies of Boston and of New England to set the good example.

They are constantly making discoveries of new marl resources in Mississippi. Professor Hilgard considers this marl superior to the commercial fertilizers, and he thinks the supply can never be exhausted.

According to Canadian papers the land monopolists have laid their hands heavily on Manitoba. It is stated that fully one-third of the whole province has already been covered by grants, and that one firm in Montreal has absorbed nine square miles of territory by means of soldiers' warrants.

A treaty was recently signed between Russia and the Attalgh Ghazee of Yarkund, providing for free intercourse between Russia and East Turkestan. This is one more point gained in Russia's long struggle to open commercial relations with Central Asia, and thus to develop the old commercial route through Central Asia to India.

The prices of lumber and timber lands in all parts of the country are rapidly advancing. There is a growing scarcity of soil for the extensive demand for which causes prices to increase.

To promote the cause of temperance, a movement has been set on foot in New York to organize a system of holly-tree coffee-houses, or restaurants for working people, where they will be furnished a good, wholesome meal, at about cost price.

Think of raising oysters in Nebraska! Yet the subject is seriously contemplated, and it is proposed to try the experiment in the lagoons near Lincoln, which it is thought can be fed up to the proper saline standard from the neighboring salt springs.

Numerous flocks of crows still linger in the evergreen forests of Western Massachusetts, and this disposition of the hardy bird to remain in its summer resorts after the closing in of winter is accepted by weather seers as prophetic of a mild season.

PERSONAL.

An English correspondent gives the following curious sketch of Von Moltke, Germany's great general: "While going to church I noticed near me the uniform of a general officer, some one who impressed me at first as the youngest, blondest and slenderest general officer I ever saw, and I tried to divine how promotion could have been so rapid in an army where everything is regular. I looked again, and the quick, elastic step, the slender, almost woman-like waist contrasted strangely with his rank, which I noticed to be that of a full general. On looking into his face I was still more surprised to recognize General Von Moltke. We continued on to the chapel door together. He is a man of few words, of a singularly youthful expression of countenance and eye; and although one knows that he is seventy years of age, and many time-lines mark his face, it is hard to shake off the idea that he is a boy. He has a light and nearly transparent complexion, a clear blue eye, flaxen hair, white eyebrows and no beard."

Some three years ago James Oakes, Esq., of Boston, the life-long friend of the great tragedian and one of his executors, made a contract (under the sanction of Mr. Forrest) with a gentleman of high scholarly attainments in Boston, who was also a personal friend of the great actor, to write his biography. It was the intention to have the work completed in the month of January, 1873, and published simultaneously in this country and in London. The volume will be illustrated with engravings of Mr. Forrest in his principal characters. It will also be a history of the drama and the stage from its earliest dawn in ancient Greece and Rome. The work is almost completed, but in consequence of the death of the great actor the publication will be temporarily delayed for the purpose of introducing many facts and incidents touching his private and inner life that could not have been published with propriety during his life. As soon as finished, the work will be published under the personal supervision of the thistorian, and with the sanction of James Oakes of Boston, James Lawson of New York, and Daniel Dougherty of Philadelphia, the executors of Mr. Forrest's will and trustees of his estate.

Mrs. Fremont is described as having grown stout and gray, but never, in the days of her girlish beauty, so fascinating as at the present time.

The Boston *Transcript* remarks, touching the subject of "Noble Wives," that Mr. Seward's fame began to wane upon the death of his wife, to whom he owed the vitalizing currents which bore him on. Disraeli married in 1839, and at once began to rise to the stature he has reached. The Viscountess Beaconsfield is dead, and we shall see how much this extraordinary man also owed to the power behind the throne.

It is stated that the whole private fortune of Mr. Nathan Appleton, of Boston, is liable for the debts of Bowles Brothers, as his relation as special partner of the firm has been changed to that of general partner. It is but just to say, however, that nothing, among all the failures that have recently come to light, has as yet cast a breath upon the reputation of this unfortunate gentleman: he has only been the greatest victim of a gigantic swindle. The story of Charles Bowles reads like the very romance of rascality. A mere penniless adventurer, he succeeded in some half a dozen years by dint of impudence and advertising, in extracting a million of dollars from the public, established a branch banks in the great capitals of Europe, built an "eyrie" at London, invested largely in real estate in Geneva, and entertained the world in the prettiest little villa imaginable. It seems to be the old story of Dick Turpin and the gentlemen of his class, disguised in the humors of fashionable finance.

The ubiquitous "Lord" Gordon Gordon has turned up in a new spot, and has been turned into an old Canada jail for putting money in his purse for a forged $1,500 check.

Mr. John A. Coleman, the plucky gentleman who fought a railroad, and taught a corporation that it had a pocket if not a soul, explained to the merchants and underwriters of Boston, on the 16th inst., a plan for putting out an incipient fire by steam.

Hon. David Choate, the last surviving brother of Rufus Choate, died at his residence in Essex, Massachusetts, last Friday, at the age of seventy-six years. He had served with credit in both branches of the Massachusetts Legislature, had also held the position of Trial Justice for many years in Essex, and was an active and earnest supporter of benevolent institutions.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

FOOD FOR MILCH COWS.

In Blanchard's "Butter Manual" the following advice on the subject of feed for milch cows is given: Rich feed, in abundance, is absolutely essential to successful buttermaking. A certain amount of food is required to support the animal, and if only that quantity is given, it is idle to expect any return in milk; and up to a certain point, in every animal, the production of quantity takes precedence of quality. If, now, the cow can be induced to eat, and will assimilate a largely increased quantity of good food, the *quality* of the milk is very greatly improved; and while the amount of butter is increased, its quality is also improved.

The tendency to lay on fat under high feeding is generally thought objectionable in cows for dairy purposes. We do not, however, view it in just that light. A very strong tendency in that direction, without any corresponding tendency to an increase of milk and butter, would, of course, be objectionable. The fat stored away is the animal's balance wheel. A cold, stormy day, or any slight interruption in the supply of food, affects the butter production in the case of a cow in low condition; and, if it be continued, it is presently manifested in the decrease of the milk, and lastly, in the condition of the animal.

It is well known that winter butter is almost always much inferior to summer. This is a natural result of the consumption of the oleine or liquid fat of the butter to keep up the animal heat; and if we would counteract this effect, and keep up the quality of the product, we must increase the supply of respiratory food.

Whatever tends to the production of fat or heat, tends to the production of butter; and whatever means may be employed to lessen its waste, such as warming the feed and water, and the stables, tend to the increase of butter.

Cows in pastures with an abundant supply of mixed grasses, free from foul weeds, and with plenty of good clean water to drink, without having to travel far for it, or to suck it up from a foul mud hole, with an occasional shade in which to lie and chew their cud at their leisure, and a shed or stable with a well filled rack to which they can resort in stormy weather, are about as good a situation to produce much and very choice butter, as they can well be, and the nearer to this condition they can be kept the better. Hence, if drouth prevails or if for any other cause it is thought best to supplement the feed, let it be done in a manner, if possible, that they may feel and believe that they are feeding on their delicious pasture grass. It is not good policy to force upon them as food, dry, woody stalks of anything, nor yet those half-grown and uncured watery articles known as green fodder. Soiling crops fed green are for the most part good for the production of a large quantity of milk, but not for a large quantity of good quality of butter. If cured, or partially cured, they are a very great help for a short season. Early cut and well cured meadow hay of good quality, and well cured corn fodder cut fine, flavored with pulped roots, and seasoned with a liberal supply of corn meal, are very good substitutes for pasture grass for summer and winter feeding. But whatever the quality, the quantity should never be stinted.

The driving of cows considerable distances causes waste of the animal tissues, which must be made up by a draft on the caseine of the milk, and upon the butter indirectly at least, which, if driven beyond their slowest gait, the direct waste by increased respiration is considerably increased. The cows that are obliged to keep upon their feet most of the day traveling about in search of food, secrete less milk, and of a poorer quality, than those who fill themselves with less labor and more quickly, and retire to some shady nook to digest their food at leisure.

WHY "SHEEP DON'T PAY" SOME FARMERS.

The *Western Rural* says: We have often noticed that the cry "sheep don't pay," comes from a class of farmers who generally fail to make any kind of business pay well. In the first place they stock up with animals that can be bought cheap—those that some shrewd breeder sells to make room for something better. In their opinion it does not answer to pay a "big price" for a ram—so a grade animal is bought and turned in with the flock. Some of the increase resemble the sire, some the dams and others are like neither. They are uneven in size, dissimilar in build, and turn off fleeces that will contribute to every lot in the sorting room of the factory. When the surplus animals are fattened they are found to possess so few attractions for the butcher as the fleeces afforded to the wool buyer. Some are well built, and carry their flesh in fair quantities at the proper points; but, after all, are no advantage to the flock, as their better appearance makes more prominent the deficiencies of the remaining animals. Even when well cared for, the chances are against such a flock paying for the necessary care and investment. Where they would pay for these, a flock of good sheep would make money for their owner.

No ram should be used that is not better in blood and build than the flock he serves, if such an one can be secured. The more marked his excellencies the better, and the purer his "blood" the more certainly will it "tell" in the increase.

Again, the men who make sheep pay do not stint or starve them. Good feeding is as necessary as careful breeding. We do not mean by this that a flock needs to be impounded and crowded with feed like fattening hogs. True economy would suggest that, to a prudent extent, they be made the scavengers of the stalk field and the stubble field (always excepting when these are stocked with hurs); and, when convenient, the blue grass pasture also. But the farmer should be careful to supply from the hay rack and corn pen, with an unstinted hand, all that these may lack of keeping up the fullest thrift in both flesh and fleece. In no other way can he get so good a price for his crops. Four bushels of corn when converted into four pounds of wool, (and if properly fed it will make more), will not longer require three-fourths of its quantity and value to get the other fourth to market, as is now the case. When converted into wool, corn can be moved from Chicago to the seaboard for two and one-half cents per bushel; and most of this can be saved by selling the clip to manufacturers in your own neighborhood.

THE BEST FERTILIZER.

A correspondent of the New York *Tribune* holds these excellent articles of faith: I believe the best fertilizer of any soil is a spirit of industry, enterprise and intelligence, and without these no man can be successful. I believe that a man who is not smart enough to enter the commercial world is not smart enough to run a farm.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

Frozen custard is a nice dish for dessert and very easily prepared. Boil two quarts of rich milk. Beat eight eggs and a teacupful of sugar together, and after the milk has boiled, pour it over the eggs and sugar, stirring all the while. Pour the whole mixture into your kettle, and let it come to a boil, stirring it constantly. Then take it off the fire, and let it become cold. Flavor it with whatever essence you prefer. Then freeze it.

A simple plan to cure beef is to dissolve eight pounds of salt and four ounces saltpetre in about a pail of water, by heating on the stove. When it comes to a scald, add two quarts molasses and two pounds of sugar. After skimming carefully, pour the whole over the beef, and place weights on it to keep it under. These are the proportions to about a hundred pounds of meat. Let this lie from four days to two weeks.

It is not every housewife who knows how best to boil a chicken. Plain, artless boiling is apt to produce a yellowish, slimy looking fowl. Before cooking, the bird should always be well washed in tepid water and lemon juice, and to insure whiteness, delicacy and succulence, should be boiled in a paste made of flour and water, and after being put into the boiling water should be allowed to simmer slowly. This method is very effectual in preserving all the juices of the fowl, and the result is a far more toothsome and nourishing morsel than the luckless bird which has been "galloped to death" in plain boiling water. Mutton is also much better for being boiled in paste.

A lady correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer* describes a dry-house which has been found very profitable and satisfactory. The actual outlay was twenty dollars, and in two weeks it had more than paid for itself in fruit preserved. It is a wood frame six by seven feet—boarded up and down and battened. No windows. There are two large holes bored on either side or ends for circulation of air, a ventilater through the roof, brick chimney. There is a tight-fitting panel door, and a parlor stove is in temporary use. There are racks made of slowly planed laths nailed to side pieces, for apples, pears, peaches and the like fruit. Sheets of tin with the edges turned up make very convenient holders for corn, berries, etc.; these are kept in place by setting them on pieces of wood, which reach nerves from side to side of the house, or from end to end.

A Pennsylvania lady, after an experience of twenty-two years, gives the following method of treating milk for making butter in winter. Strain the milk in tin pans, filling only half full—a little more or less will make no difference, then as soon as convenient set the pans of milk on the stove, where let them remain until a roughness or wrinkled appearance on the top of the milk is noticed (if the milk gets too hot the only harm will be less cream); then take it in the milk room or cellar, in a cool place until the next morning, when bring it up in a warm room and let it stand until the next day, when it is generally ready to skim. When treated in this way it will not do to skim much under forty-eight hours. My plan is to skim morning and night's milking both at the same time in winter. It does not hurt butter for the cream to sour—rather aids in churning, making butter come sooner. The cream kettle I keep in the cellar until the day or evening before I wish to churn; then, if convenient, set near a coal stove or one that fire is kept in all night. In the morning, before churning, try with a thermometer; it should be at temperature of about two degrees. If not convenient to set the cream near a warm stove, setting the kettle in hot water will answer every purpose. Many persons object to heating the milk, because the milk sometimes burns to the bottom of the pans. To avoid this, set pans with water on the stove and place the pans with milk in them, and the difficulty is at once avoided. If butter needs coloring I would prefer carrot, which is prepared by scraping off the outside and washing; then grate into a small portion of the cream and strain this into the whole. I would say never wash butter; use as little water about butter as possible. This is my experience, having washed butter to my satisfaction, always having it go strong in a few days after. I have tested many ways to avoid beating milk in winter, but have found nothing as satisfactory as what I have given.

Duping the Sick.

In shape, color and smell the toadstool closely resembles the mushroom, yet the one is a poisonous fungus, the other a wholesome vegetable. Many of the advertised and unadvertised slops which unscrupulous speculators are trying to persuade the credulous are "as good as Hostetter's Bitters," bear a like superficial resemblance to that inestimable vegetable restorative. Quite a number of these dangerous *fungi* have started up within the last two years, and doubtless many worthy people have been poisoned by them. Some of these wolves wear the sheep's clothing of pretended morality, and inveigh against medicinal stimulation as they vend their acid poisons; while others offer their liquid compounds of "forty rod rum" and condemned drugs under the slang names of "Eye Openers," "Morning Glories," Cobweb Cutters," and the like. Beware of them all, for they are deadly and detestable.

Holiday Goods

FANCY TOILET BOXES,
FANCY TOILET BOXES,
FANCY COLOGNE BOTTLES,
FANCY COLOGNE BOTTLES,
PERFUMERY IN FANCY BOXES,
PERFUMERY IN FANCY BOXES,
IMPORTED HAIR BRUSHES,
IMPORTED HAIR BRUSHES,
IMPORTED TOOTH BRUSHES,
IMPORTED TOOTH BRUSHES,
BUFFALO DRESSING COMBS,
BUFFALO DRESSING COMBS.

Also, a large assortment of Lubin's, Rimmel's, Lundborg and others' FINE PERFUMES, at

JOSEPH FLEMING'S,
81 MARKET STREET.

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS
USE
Dr. Sargent's Cough Syrup,
Warranted to give immediate relief. For sale by all Druggists.
George A. Kelly & Co.,
PROPRIETORS.
Wholesale Druggists, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Chartered in 1862.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished on application.
BOARD OF MANAGERS:
GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Ratton, G. Folzenlogle, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert G. Schmertz, Christopher Zug, John W. Bailey, Solicitor.

DRY GOODS.
Popular Prices
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS.
Jas. Caldwell & Co.
Are now offering very choice lines of
Dress Goods,
At prices ranging from 25 to 50 Cents per Yard. Also, a magnificent stock of
DRESS SILKS
AT ONE DOLLAR PER YARD.
The above Goods will be found well worthy of inspection by persons wanting good Goods at moderate prices for Christmas Presents, &c.
In addition to our very large stock of Fine Silks and Dress Goods, we have a very rich assortment of Cloaks in Cloth, Silk Velvet and Seal Skin.
Also, a large assortment of
LADIES' FURS,
From medium to very fine qualities; Fine Laces, Collars and Handkerchiefs.
118 and 120 Federal Street,
ALLEGHENY CITY.

NUTRINA--PAPOMA.
NUTRINA!!!
1. It Cooks in less time than crushed wheat.
2. It is more quickly digested.
3. It is not pasty or starchy.
4. It will not become stale or wormy.
5. It is far more nutritious.
6. It will cure Constipation and Dyspepsia!
7. It is invaluable to Nursing Mothers!
8. Children will be healthy who use it.
GET IT OF YOUR GROCER.
PAPOMA!!!
Indorsed by many eminent physicians of Pittsburgh and Allegheny as Food for INFANTS and INVALIDS. Remember that Starch is not food. It must be converted into Dextrine either in the stomach or by the pancreas. Our process saves the stomach this labor, as well as preserves the white of the wheat.
Get it of Your Grocer or Druggist.
Nutrio Manufacturing Co.,
1520 SOUTH NINTH STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.

FOR FAMILY USE.
THE HALFORD
LEICESTERSHIRE
TABLE SAUCE,
THE BEST SAUCE AND RELISH
Made in any Part of the World
FOR
FAMILY USE.
PINTS, - - - - 50 CENTS
HALF PINTS, - - 30 CENTS
FOR SALE BY ALL GROCERS.

FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF
THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTY
AND VICINITY,
Wanamaker & Brown,
The Popular Clothiers of Philadelphia,
HAVE OPENED A
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT,
AT
62 FIFTH AVENUE,
Four Doors above Wood Street, not far from Smithfield Street,
PITTSBURGH,
Where we are NOW Offering an
UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY
TO SECURE
REAL BARGAINS
IN
Substantial Clothing,
FOR MEN'S WINTER WEAR.
☞ Gent's wishing to lay in a full supply of our ELEGANTLY MADE GARMENTS at Lower Prices than the Same Class Goods have ever been sold in Pittsburgh, ARE INVITED to Inspect our Large and Varied Assortment of Beautiful NEW STYLE OVERCOATS AND SUITS made expressly for our own Retail Sales by our skillful workmen in Philadelphia, under our own careful supervision.
☞ We assure those who visit our BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT that they will receive POLITE ATTENTION and PERFECT satisfaction in EVERY respect.
☞ Samples of all our Piece Goods to Make to Order (in Philadelphia) will be shown, and Selections may be made with as gratifying results in regard to Style, Quality, Fit and Price as if the "order" had been given direct in Oak Hall, Philadelphia.
WANAMAKER'S
Branch Clothing House,
62 FIFTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

JOS. HORNE & CO.
JOS. HORNE & CO.,
197 and 199 Penn Avenue.
RETAIL STORES.
Holiday Season.
EVERY DEPARTMENT FILLED
WITH
Choicest Goods
AND
Latest Novelties
Men's Furnishing Department.
House Robes and Jackets,
Silk, Woolen and Cashmere Mufflers,
White and Colored Silk Handkerchiefs,
Initial, Hemstitched and Plain Linen Handkerchiefs, in Fancy Boxes,
Silk and Woolen Wristlets,
Suspenders and Half Hose,
New styles Bows and Scarfs, bargains on counter.
Fine Shirts, Underwear, from low to finest quality.
UMBRELLAS.
Elegant Novelties in Silk Umbrellas, with Ivory, Pearl, Agate, Malacca and Fancy Handles, Caps and Girdles, Hook attached, 24 to 32 Inches.
PAPER COLLARS in Fancy Boxes.
GLOVES,
For Ladies', Mens', Misses', Children and Boys' Wear, of every kind and description.
WOOLEN HOODS, SCARFS, NUBIAS and JACKETS.
CHILDREN'S SCARLET and BLUE FLANNEL HOODS and SACQUES.
Ladies' Embroidered and Braided Flannel and Cloth Blouse WAISTS and HOOD SACQUES.
SILK NECK SCARFS.
500 dozen at 25c, 50c, 75c and $1. Also, Silk Fichus in all colors.
SASH RIBBONS at greatly reduced prices.
Handkerchiefs, Handkerchiefs
1,000 dozen Ladies' Plain, Hemstitched, Initial and Fine Embroidered Linen Handkerchiefs, at very low figures.
1,000 EMBROIDERED LINEN SETS
From 75 cents up.
New Novelties in LINEN COLLARS, CUFFS and SLEEVES.
Rich Laces and Lace Goods.
POINT LACE—Handkerchiefs, Collars, Barbes, Berthas and Corfleurs.
POINT APPLIQ

James T. Brady & Co

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

GEO. B. HILL.....G. HANSON LOVE.....JAS. N. HILL

GEO. B. HILL & CO.,

Bankers and Brokers,

No. 58 FOURTH AVE., Pittsburgh, Pa.,

Buy and Sell on Commission All Kinds of

STOCKS, BONDS, MORTGAGES, GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, NEGOTIABLE PAPER, &C., &C.

Collections Made on all Accessible Points.

Interest Allowed on Time Deposits.

PASSAGE TICKETS by the National Line, comprising some of the largest Steamships afloat, from or to Londonderry, Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry and Glasgow.

DRAFTS, payable on demand in any part of England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland, and AT LOWEST RATES.

Security Trust Co.

Incorporated by the Legislature of Pennsylvania,

NO. 64 WOOD STREET,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL,

$1,000,000.

CHARTER PERPETUAL.

President.....DAVID GREGG

Directors.

WM. WILLIS, J. V. McDONALD, JAMES T. BRADY, B. L. FAHNESTOCK, DANIEL RUWER, G. S. FETTERMAN, PHILIP BENTEL, BENJ. SINGERLY, HON. ROBT. McKNIGHT, HARTLEY HOWARD, L. J. BLANCHARD, DAVID GREGG.

DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Deposits Solicited and Interest Allowed on same. Dividends, Coupons, etc., Collected Without Charge.

ALL CLASSES OF SECURITIES BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

BANKERS.

WE OFFER FOR SALE FREE FROM ALL TAXES,

$50,000 SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Co.'s Creek Division, at 86 and Accrued Interest.

This Mortgage is a FIRST LIEN on the first twelve miles of the Road, and is a law to the whole Road, being the most valuable security, and pays 7% per cent. on the investment.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

BANKERS,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 20, 1872.

A petition has been presented to Congress by the banks and bankers of New York for the removal of the tax on capital and deposits, a movement in which our local banks are largely interested, and which it would be well for them to bring to the attention of our Representative at Washington. The taxes now paid by bankers, according to the estimates given in the petition, are over ten per cent. of the capital, a sum that must be earned before the first dollar is netted to the stockholders. As it is the policy to reduce internal taxation to the simplest form, and to do away with the expensive machinery of its collection, there is no place where a reduction could be more judiciously made than in the tax on capital and deposits. The amount collected from this source last year was $9,061,249 28. This large amount, which now the banks must assess in some form or other on their customers, would be taken from a class who most need relief—the producers—those who, in the prosecution of their business, are compelled to be large borrowers. So that this tax is ultimately collected from the raw material, which is twice the burden it would be if levied on the finished product.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Even.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	117½	117½	117½
U. S. Bonds of 1862	112½	112	112
U. S. Bonds of 1864	112½	112	112½
U. S. Bonds of 1865	112½	112½	113⅛
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	111½	114½	115
U. S. Bonds of 1867	116	116	116
U. S. Bonds of 1868	115½	115⅝	115⅝
10-40s	109½	109⅝	109⅝
New 5s	111	110⅝	111⅛
Gold	111¾	111¼	111¾
Currency 6s	123½	123½	123⅝

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	111¾
United States 6s of 1881	117½
United States 5-20s of 1862	112½
United States 5-20s of 1864	112½
United States 5-20s of 1865	112⅝
United States 10-40s	109⅛
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	114⅞
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	116
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	115⅞
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	112⅝

—Curious results have followed some of the experiments made upon charred papers and documents, and the examinations of books in safes which proved worthless in the great fire. It has been found that what paper makers call poor paper, paper considerably "sized" stood the best test. Parchment paper, used for bonds and legal documents, shriveled up exceedingly, and the print blistered so that it could not be read. Sheepskin was illegible. So it was with the engraved work on notes. The gilding on the account books burned and charred showed out as bright and clear as when the books were new, which brings up the question if to introduce gilt-edged account books would not be well, on the ground that the gilt would stay the ravage by fire of the paper within. Books crammed into a safe so that it was difficult to get them out suffered considerably less than those that were set in loosely, and in some cases came out from safes, in which everything else was worthless, so far preserved that the figures on the accounts could be deciphered. With charred papers, which could not be made transparent by any light whatever used, it was found, after the employment of vitriol, oxalic acid, chalk, glycerine, and other things, that anything that monetered them to a certain stage—to which it was delicate work to get and not pass—made the lines, words and figures legible through a magnifying glass. It has been the almost universal experience that lead pencil marks show out all right where ink entries cannot be distinguished, the success of the use of photography has already been noted.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 20, 1872.	10:30 11 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	2:30
	No. Mch.	No. Mch.	No. Mch.
Gold	111¾	111¾	111¾
Canton	39½	39½	39½
Western Union Tel.	86½	86½	86½
Quicksilver	36½	36½	36½
Pacific Mail	25	25	25
Adams Express	58	58	58
Wells, Fargo & Co	80	80	80
American Express	57	57	57
New York Central	96½	96½	96½
Erie	20¾	20¾	20¾
Michigan Central	93	93	93
Michigan Southern	87	87	87
Illinois Central	135	135	135
Cleveland and Pittsb'h	96	96	96
Chicago and Northwest	82½	82½	82½
Do preferred	90	90	90
Rock Island	107½	107½	107½
Pt. Wayne	94	91	94
Ohio and Mississippi	37½	37½	37½
Do. preferred	67½	67½	67½
Wabash	42	42	42
Do. Preferred	72	72	72
Ft. Wayne	94	94	94
Ohio and Mississippi	37½	37½	37½
Union Pacific	42¾	42¾	42¾
Chicago and Alton	111	111	111
Do. preferred	120	120	120
Boston, Hartford & Erie	7	7	7
Hartford and Erie	2	2	2
New Jersey Central	100	100½	100½

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following telegraphic report of quotation of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penn'a Central	96	Phila. and Erie	26
Reading	58½	Lehigh Navigation	86½
United Cos.'s of N. J.	124	Pittsburgh Ins. Co.	53½
U. S. Gold Bonds, A., V., R. & P.	93	Penn'a R. R.	57½
Lehigh Valley R. R.	59	Central Transp'n	47

HORSE SHOES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 20, 1872.

Inadvertently an imperfect list of prices for horse shoes found its way into our columns yesterday. The following are the correct rates as furnished by Shoenberger & Co.:

Horse shoes, ¾ keg 100 lb lots	$5 00
Horse shoes, ¾ keg 50 lb lots	5 25
Horse shoes, ¾ keg, 10 lb lots or less	5 50
Mule shoes, ¾ keg, $1 00 higher.	

Comparative Cotton Statement.

NEW YORK, December 20, 1872.

Net receipts at all ports for the week	116,396
Same time last year	91,000
Total for year	1,511,300
Last year	1,345,000
Exports of week	79,611
Same time last year	70,000
Total for year	1,147,000
Last year	1,045,000
Stock at all United States ports	348,000
Last year	326,586
Stock at interior towns	46,000
Last year	71,000
At Liverpool	596,000
Last year	438,000
American stock for Great Britain	400,000
Last year	337,000

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, December 20.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat firm; No. 1 Milwaukee spring, 72; No. 2 do, 70½; rejected, 65; No. 1 red winter, 72; No. 2 do, 70½; amber winter, 72; No. 2 do, 70½; No. 1 do, 68; No. 2 do, 66; winter red, 72; No. 1 white, 72; No. 2 do, 70½. Corn dull and nominal at 36c. Oats dull and nominal at 30c. Barley firm and in fair demand; No. 2 spring, 70c; No. 3 do, 65c; rejected, 55c. Rye dull and nominal at 56c. Provisions quiet and unchanged. Receipts—Flour, 2,000 bbls; wheat, 3,000 bush; corn, 1,000 bush; oats, 1,000 bush; barley, 1,000 bush; rye, 1,000 bush. Shipments—Flour, 1,000 bbls; wheat, 2,000 bush; corn, 1,000 bush; oats, 1,000 bush; barley, 1,000 bush; rye, 1,000 bush.

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Erie	500	20¾	100	20¾	100	20¾
Michigan Central		93		93		93
Michigan Southern		87		87		87
Illinois Central		135		135		135
Cleveland and Pittsb'h		96		96		96
Chicago and Northwest	200	82½		82½		82½
Do preferred		90		90		90
Rock Island	100	107½	100	107½	100	107½
Pt. Wayne	54	91	100	91	100	94
Ohio and Mississippi		37½		37½		37½
Do. preferred		67½		67½		67½
Wabash		42		42		42
Do. Preferred		72		72		72
Ft. Wayne		94		94		94
Ohio and Mississippi	63	37½	50	37½	50	37½
Union Pacific	50	42¾	50	42¾	50	42¾
Chicago and Alton		111		111		111
Do. preferred		120		120		120
Boston, Hartford & Erie		7		7		7
Hartford and Erie		2		2		2
New Jersey Central		100		100½		100½

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PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 20, 1872.

REMARKS.—The condition of the streets and sidewalks is anything but inviting to pedestrians, and only such as are compelled to take venture forth promenade. Seriously, we have never witnessed the streets in a worse condition, and the effect upon the local trade is very perceptible. With regard to the state of the market we have little to say. Even just now it is dull. It needless to deny: yet is not more so than is usually the case at this season of the year. The all-absorbing feature of the market is the unusual scarcity of grain, particularly of wheat, corn and oats. Dealers say that there is not enough changing hands upon which to base quotations. The mills are in short supply, and it is said they either have or will advance their rates. We know of one holder refusing to accept less than $1 00 for a lot of choice amber wheat. At the same time that wheat is scarce, corn and oats also fall far short of the demand, and as the result prices are very firm, a sl ade higher and still looking up. Flour is in fair receipt, still not in sufficient quantity to meet orders, and it is hinted that an advance in choice western brands will take place in the beginning of the coming week. Grocers, particularly for New Orleans sweets, are very active, and quotations fully maintained. Bacon and provisions are quiet and unchanged in price, with a fair trade demand reported. The poultry and game market is well supplied and prices are moderate. Prime butter and fresh eggs continue scarce and sell well up in the figures.

Below will be found the ruling quotations of the market, the reader being earnestly reminded that they are wholesale unless special mention is made of the fact:

ALES—Following are the rates at which the leading Pittsburg breweries quote: Iron City X, $9 bbl; half do $4 50; XX, $10 ℔ bbl; half do $5; India Ale, $11 ℔ bbl; $5 50 half do. Porter $10 ℔ bbl. When packages are returned $3 are allowed for barrels and $2 50 for half do.

APPLES—The market holds about the same, and we continue to quote good cooking apples at $2 75@3 25 ℔ barrel; common $2@2 25.

APPLE BUTTER—There is an improved demand, and we are reported sales at 45@50c per gallon.

ASHES—Market quiet and prices firm at the following figures: Pearls 11@11½c; pots 10c; soda ash, 4½@5c; refined 6@6½c; nitrate soda 4½@5c; arsenic 3½@4c.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Dealers report a fair inquiry. The old stock is fast disappearing, and in a few days or weeks will be succeeded by the new crop. We quote as follows: Sugar cured hams, 16c; sugar cured shoulders 7½c; plain shoulders 6c; breakfast bacon 11½c; mess pork $14 50 for rib sides; 5c; clear rib sides 9½c; clear sides 10c; dried beef 18c; ham sausage 18c; lard, in bar ers, 9c; in kegs, 10c; in bbls, 10c; lard, in kegs and tubs, 10½c; sour feet, $2 50 per keg; pigs feet, per half bbl, $2 00. Receipts, bacon 379 pieces and 31 sides.

BAGS—There is an active demand for prime white navy at $2 70@2 80; common grades $2 60 ℔ hundred.

BRESWAX—No change in prices, with small sales at 30@32c ℔ lb.

BUTTER—Receipts 36 packages. Prices are firmer. We quote prime to choice roll 28@30c ℔ lb; medium 25@26c; common grades 22@25c. Country of choice roll fa ls short of the demand.

BASKET BALLS—We quote as follows: 1 ℔ cans $6 00 ℔ doz; ½ cans $3 25 ℔ doz; ¼ cans $2 25 ℔ doz.

BROOM CORN—Sales steady at 14½@15c ℔ lb; mould 12c; clear 2½@2 2c.

CHEESE—Receipts light, and prices nominally as follows: Prime New York Goshen 18½@19c; Ohio Goshen 16½@16c; Dairy 15½@16c; Factory 14½@15c.

CIDER—Sales are reported at $5@7, as to quality.

CRACKERS—Soda crackers 9c; Boston 11½c ℔ bbl; Carey's $4@4 50 ℔ bbl; common and cultivated $3 to $3 50 ℔ bbl.

CANDLES—Market fair at 23½@24c ℔ gallon for round lots standard brands; jobbing lots 25c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—A fair demand is reported with sales at $5 ℔ case.

DRESSED HOGS—The arrivals are largely on the increase, and dealers are taking advantage of the low prices to "lay in" a stock of pork for the winter We quote sized hogs sell the readiest. Sales made at 5½@5¾c ℔ lb.

DRIED FRUITS—We are reported sales of bright dry apples at 5½@6c, with some extra choice lots a shade higher; peaches, new crop, 8@9c; bright peeled peaches, 20@22c; do unpeeled, 12@13c; seconds cherries, 20@25c; unpeeled, 7@8c.

EGGS—The supply of strictly fresh eggs continues to fall short of the demand. We quote at 34@35c ℔ dozen.

FEATHERS—No. 1 live geese feathers 72@75c per lb to the trade, with the usual advance for jobbing lots.

FISH—White fish at $5 50 per half barrel; mackerel, shore, $20@22 per barrel; No. 1 bay $16@18; No. 2 shore, medium, $14@15; No. 3 large, $12; in small packages, $4 75 and $7 in barrels; new cod fish $6 50@7 in small packages; new Labrador split, $5 @9 00; new Labrador $7 50.

FLOUR—Receipts 1,927 bbls. The advance in choice Western brands is maintained, and a still further rise is looked for early in the coming week. It is said that the millers don't will soon put up prices, in consequence of the scarcity and high figures asked for wheat. We give the following as the current rates of the market: Fancy winter, $8 75; Ohio brands, $8 00@8 25; Indiana brands, $7 50; standard brands spring, $7 50. Buckwheat flour, $9 50@10 00.

GROCERIES—We note an improved demand for all articles in the line, but especially for New Orleans sweets. The sharp advance established yesterday has brought a good many buyers into market, and from advices from New Orleans of this date, we believe that purchases made to-day will be profitable ones. Coffees are still firm, without change. Sugars are in fair request at unchanged figures. We give the following as the figures at which actual sales are made:

Sugars—Knight's yellow 8¾c; Knight's extra C 10¾c; Demarara 11¾@11¾c; Monumental C 11¾c; A E, extra C, 11¾c; extra C 12¼c; B 12¾c; A 12¾c; confectionary A 12¾c; crushed 13¼c; granulated 13¾c; powdered 13¾c; cut loaf 14¾c; New Orleans, prime to choice, 10¾@11¾c.

Coffees—Fancy Rio coffee 24½c; prime 23@23½c; good 22@22½c; fair 20@20½; roasted, loose, 24½c; roasted, in packages, 25c.

Syrups—Orleans—prime 70c; choice 75c; Union H & E extra 56c; do fancy 60c; Barry extra 56c; maple 60c; extra maple 65c; common 50@55c.

Rice—Carolina 8½@9c; Rangoon 7¾@7½c.

GRAIN—The receipts of wheat are light, and bulk, exclusive of elevator, since our last, were as follows: Wheat, sacks..... 240 | Corn, sacks..... 190
Rye, sacks..... 2 | Oats, sacks..... 413

The receipts at the Grain Elevator on Thursday were as follows, computed by bushels:

Wheat, bushels..... 667 | Rye, bushels..... 385
Corn, bushels..... 1,114 | Barley, bushels..... 0

It will be seen that the receipts of all varieties of grain are meager, and although prices are very firm we do not feel authorized to advance our figures. We quote as follows: Prime white and amber, $1 80@1 86; choice red winter $1 80; fair to good scarce and wanted at 41c@42c for mixed; white 44c. Corn sells at 36c@36½c, and is scarce. Oats are in active demand; future delivery is offered at 44@45c. Rye dull at 85@86c. Barley quiet at 85@90c for spring, and 95c@1 00 for fall.

HAY—The rec ipts are in excess of the demand, and prices are weak enough no lower. Baled hay on track at $26@32 as to quality.

HOMINY—We are reported an active trade at $4 25@5 50 bbl.

HOPS—The stocks of 1872 are scarce and in demand at 50@55c; 1871s at 16@12c.

HONEY—Sa es in a small way at 35@40c ℔ lb.

LIME—Cleveland white $1 60 ℔ bbl; eastern $1 75.

LARD OIL—No 1 extra, 90@95c; No. 1, 80@85c per gal.

MINCE MEAT—Choice brands are in good demand at 12c ℔ lb.

ONIONS—Silver skins are held at $3 00@3 25 ℔ bbl; yellow $2 75; reds $2 00@2 25.

POTATOES—Choice Peachblows 85@90c ℔ bush; Jersey sweets $5 00@5 25 ℔ bbl.

POULTRY—Live chickens dull and nominal at 45@50c ℔ pair; dressed, fresh receipts, 12@13c; dressed turkeys limited; ducks, 15@16c.

HAIR—Held at 35@37½c ℔ lb.

SAPOLIO—Sales at $6 00 ℔ case of 6 doz.

SEED—Clover $4 25@4 50 ℔ bu.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c ℔ lb.

WHISKY—High wines 90@92c ℔ gall.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 21, 1872.

REMARKS.—The crude market has undergone no material change here, dealers generally are inclined to wait until prices become more settled in the oil regions. Dispatches received yesterday are conflicting, but most of them agree that the worst is passed. Parker's was quoted firm at $3 00 ℔ bbl. For prices at other points see dispatches.

REFINED.

The market is unchanged as regards prices or demand. Refiners quote standard tests as follows: Philadelphia delivery 27c; F. O. B. at works, large lots, 22c. For jobbing lots 23c is required.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—The *Herald* says: At the opening this morning the market was dull, but there was at the same time a stronger tone, and no sellers at any of the following prices: Parkersburg, which is to date demand. Oats firm and unchanged. Eggs demand scarce at full prices, or 29@30c. Butter dull but unchanged. Cheese—Market steady, with a moderate demand. Meats—Pork shade lower, sales at $13 75. Lard steady at 9c. Bacon—Shoulders in good demand at 6½c; sides easier and in good demand; clear rib sides 7½c; clear sides 8c. Green meats—Hams in good demand; sides 6½@6¾c. Ham: firm at 8½@8¾c. Hogs quiet at $3 25@3 50 for packing and shipping. Cattle—Prices with 50c bid and 85c asked; sales at both rates.

Albany Live Stock Market.

ALBANY, December 20.—Cattle—Market opens dull, with a good supply. The same storm last night and to-day affected the markets: receipts 143 cars, an excess of 35 cars over last week; there was a decline of $@½c. Mich medium and common grades; range 4½ to 5½c. Mich cows—baked dull at $50@65. Sheep and Lambs—There is a falling off in the receipts and no improvement in the demand; 30 cars arrived, being 6 cars less than last week; market dull; range for coarse wool, 5½@6½c; extra do, 6@6¾c; medium to good lots, 6½@7c; fine wool 6@6½c; lambs 7½c. Hogs—Nothing doing.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, December 20.—Cotton—D mand light and barely sustained. Corn—Demand light; offers ample; demand for No. 2 spring at $1 18½. Corn—D mand light but holders firm; No. 2 mixed at 34½c cash and unchanged. Rye firm; No. 2, 76c. Whisky firm at 86c. Mess pork nominal at $14. Bacon nominal at 5½@6c for shoulders, and easier at 6¾@7c. Hams at $1 45@1 60, mostly at $1 50@1 60. Cattle quiet at $3 00@5 75 for fair to extra.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, December 20.—Cotton is fair demand and prices advanced; low middling 17½c; good do, 18½c; demand good at full prices; superfine $4 25. Wheat scarce and firm at $1 60@1 65. Corn already at 42@43c. Oats in fair demand at 30@35c. Barley 65c. Provisions active. Bulk shoulders 6½c; clear rib sides 8½c. Lard kettle dried 9½c.

Memphis Market.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—Cotton firm and in fair demand; good ordinary 14½c; low middling 16½c. Gold prices advanced to 86 00@8 25. Corn in fair demand at 40@45c. Oats in good demand at 35@40c. Hay firm at $25@30. Bran firm at $20@24 50 per ton. Bulk meats and lard quiet and unchanged in every respect.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Hay scarce; prime $23. Pork firmer; mess $14. Dry salt meats—Shoulders 6@6c. Bacon easier at 8½@9½c. Molasses dull and weaker; fair 50@55c; prime 60c. Sugar firmer. Whisky declined; Louisiana 88c; Cincinnati 90c. Others unchanged.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, December 20.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat quiet but closed active; No 1 red, held at $1 48. Corn quiet and unchanged; new, 37c. Oats—Active demand; light but holders firm; No 2, 36c. Refined petroleum is good demand at 32½@32½c for Standard white, car lots; prime do 23½@23½c.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—Grain quiet, weak but unchanged. Flour firm and demand fair; extra family $6 50@7 00; quiet. Wheat—No 2 red, $1 40@1 50. Hogs—Fair demand and prices one; receipts 2,000 head; sales at $3 50@4 50; extreme range $3 40@4 75. Provisions quiet at yesterday's quotations. Whisky quiet at 86c.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, December 20.—Flour steady, with a moderate demand. Wheat—Active demand; No 2 white Wabash $1 48; amber Michigan $1 48; No 2 red $1 40. Corn dull, but unchanged. Oats dull and nominal. Rosin open firm at $2 15. Lard 7½@8c. Dressed hogs $4 40@4 50.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—Flour steady for improved demand; superfine $4 50@5 50. Wheat firm at $1 58@1 57. Corn dull and unchanged; mixed 46@46c; white 50@53c. Oats dull; white 56@58c. Provisions unchanged. Petroleum—crude 15½@16c; refined 26@28c. Whisky held at 86c.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—Flour and wheat firm and unchanged. Corn dull and unchanged; mixed western 45c. Oat- firm; western mixed 46@46c; white 50@53c. Rye steady at 86@88c. Provisions dull and unchanged. Lard steady; choice roll 9c. Whisky $1 06.

J. & H. PHILLIPS,

Manufacturers and Dealers in

OIL CLOTH, WINDOW SHADES, &c.

Green Shade Cloth a Specialty.

Also, Agents for the BOSTON BELTING CO.'S RUBBER BELTING HOSE, STEAM PACKING, &c.

Dealers in LEATHER BELTING, LACE LEATHER and RUBBER GOODS GENERALLY.

PAINTING, GRAINING AND GLAZING.

Nos. 26 and 28 SIXTH STREET,

PITTSBURGH P

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 21, 1872.

We are unable to report much change in the market for raw irons.

There has been considerable enquiry for prices on part of the buyers, quite a number expressing a belief that trade will open up actively early in the new year, and that prices will rule higher after January 1st than now. We are reported the following sales:

Hendinons Cent Smelted from Lake Superior Ore.

100 tons white and mottled	$35 00@4 mos
100 tons gray forge	38 50@4 mos
100 tons No 1 X	38 50@4 mos
100 tons No 1 gray mill red short at furnace	40 00@4 mos
50 tons No 1 X gray mill red short at furnace	40 00@4 mos
50 tons No 1 gray mill red short at furnace	40 00@4 mos
50 tons No 1 X gray forge	42 00@4 mos

Anthracite.

50 tons No 1 foundry	$40 00@4 mos
50 tons No 2 foundry	40 00@4 mos
50 tons No 3 foundry	40 00@4 mos
50 tons gray forge	38 00@4 mos
50 tons No 1 X gray forge	38 00@4 mos
50 tons No 2 foundry	36 00@4 mos
50 tons No 2 foundry, Dunbar	40 00@4 mos
100 tons No 1 foundry	42 00@4 mos
100 tons No 2 foundry	42 50@4 mos
100 tons gray forge	40 00@4 mos
100 tons close gray forge	36 00@4 mos
200 tons chickies forge at furnace	42 00@ cash
50 tons chickies forge at furnace	44 00@ cash
50 tons chickies forge at furnace	46 00@ cash

Hanging Rock.

20 tons olive	$58 00@4 mos

Connellsville Coke.

20 tons No 2 foundry, Dunbar	$45 75@4 mos

Receipts of Blooms, Pig Metal, and Ore.

Following are the receipts of metal for the past twenty four hours:

PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD, P. R. R. CO., LESSEE.

	Cars.		Cars.
Paul Jones & Co, m	1	Byers, McC & Co, m	1
Caughey & Hallman, m	3		
	4		9

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH R. R.

	Cars.		Cars.
Shoenberger, B & Co, o	1	Isabella Furnace Co., o	2
Soho Furnace, o	10	McKnight, P & Co, o	2
Ivy Furnace Co, o	2	Jones, G & Co, o	2
Pittsburgh Bolt Co, o	2	Zug & Co, m	2
	17		8

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

	Cars.		Cars.
Nimick & Co, b	4	McKnight, P & Co, o	2
J Moorhead, m	4	Wm Smith, m	2
J W Porter, m	9		
	17		4

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI AND ST. LOUIS R. R.

	Cars.		Cars.
Carnegie, McA & Co, o	1		
Harbaugh, M & Co, o	1		
	2		0

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD Cars.

Caugh y & Hallman, m	1
	1

IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

DECEMBER 19.—American Iron—The demand for iron is quiet in small lots in each line, which are therefore open to nearly nominal. We quote, s the given prices, No. foundry $48; No 2 foundry $46 for Lehigh brands. The line of Scotch forge is more marked, our quotations now ng $38@38 per ton. We cannot see how even this price an e mi-tained, in view of the present price of scrap The Thomas Iron Company sold last week 10,000 tons of water pipe purp ses, and r p rts that they are engaged for next year. The same is true of the Crane and other English exchanges. We do not, however, hear of any consider ble transactions at fixed prices.

Scotch Pig—The market for Scotch iron is unsettled, with no sales advertised for spring delivery, or advance in Scotland—a lis for makers numbers, and 100 tons for our own brands of No 1 iron. Exporters say that the values is excessively a strike among colliers an ironmasters. Many furnaces in the Clyde district, as well as at Glasgow has been broken up, and the balance of the iron trade is in a very unsettled state. The market new organization, composed principally of German and Belgian buyers, which has sprung up under the shadow of the strike, and which is said to be backed by the Scotch iron here is small, and buyers are ther holding off thus showing any inclination to operate. The season for ocean navigation is shall have been reached, and thus the market stands at the present. The stock of

THE VERY LATEST.

GOULD'S SURRENDER.

The Transfer of Stocks, Bonds and Real Estate to the Erie Railroad Company —Settlement of the Fisk Estate.

NEW YORK, December 20.—At Barlow's office today Jay Gould delivered all the stocks and bonds which were claimed from him by the Erie Railway Company, amounting to between five and six millions. These were brought to the office this morning in a large thin box, and have been transferred to a similar box, in which they will be taken to the office of the company. During the counting of the securities and signing of the receipts there were present on part of the time, in addition to President Watson, who attended throughout, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Shearman and Mr. Travers. Gould remained in Barlow's office and assisted in the work. It is reported he has surrendered unconditionally all his real estate in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, the Grand Opera House, with ten or twelve adjoining buildings on Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets, together with a valuable plot of ground at the foot of Twenty-third street, North River. He also promised to secure Mrs. Mary Fisk's interest in the Grand Opera House. The Rhode Island property given up by Gould is supposed to be his magnificent marine villa on the point at Newport. The New Jersey title comprehends his real estate interest on the North river shore, and the Pennsylvania property is said to represent coal farms. Its absolute surrender of the Grand Opera House property would seem to indicate that Mrs. Fisk had been convinced of her inability to retain her ownership, had the suits been pressed to trial. What arrangement has been made between the Gould and Fisk estate, by which the trial has been brought about, is unknown. The company have agreed to settle with the estate.—Col. Fisk to half of the Opera House and $100,000 in cash. Gould to leave Fisk's widow with less than $100,000. The actual legal transfer of real estate, embracing tracts of land in New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania, may require several weeks.

OIL TRADE COMBINATION.

Nothing Further Concerning the Terms —Spasmodic Effect on the Market.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, PA., December 20, 1872.

No additional p rticulars as to the terms of the agreement between the producers and refiners' committees have been received here. The market opened strong this morning, with sales at $8 40. Later in the day the price fell off, the market closing weak at about $8 25. At Oil City there were sales at $8 26, the market closing weak. There is a scarcity of oil here, which accounts for the price being higher than at Oil City. What the future effect of the combination may exert on the price of crude oil it is impossible to tell, but the only effect so far has been to spasmodically raise it up to a figure that to-day could not be maintained.

BIGGEST FAMILY ON RECORD.

Eighteen Children, the Smallest Weighing 180 Pounds—Father and Mother Also Heavy Weights.

The Bedford *Inquirer* of yesterday says: Benjamin and Catharine Troutman, of Londonderry township, this county, had once a happy family circle, but the aged father and eight of the children have gone to that bourne whence no traveler returns. The mother, who is about seventy-five years of age, and weighs upward of two hundred pounds avoirdupois, still lives with her son George in Londonderry township. The ten children now living tip the beam of a "Fairbanks" to the tune of two thousand two hundred and fifteen pounds. The respective force of gravity of each, according to their last census, is as follows:

George, who lives in Londonderry township, 245 pounds; Joseph, who holds forth at Fair Hope, Somerset county, 220 pounds; John, who resides in the State of Indiana, 265 pounds in his shirt sleeves; Daniel, who lives in Kansas, 225 pounds; Adam, who is a resident of the Smoky City, Pittsburgh, 220 pounds; Sarah and Polly who reside in this county, 240 and 200 pounds respectively; Nancy, who lives in Maryland, 260 pounds; Betsey, who has followed the advice of the lamented Greeley and "gone West," 260 pounds. The latter weighed 180 pounds, and the deceased children ranged in weight from 90 to 175 pounds each. If anybody can beat this let him rise and speak.

STATE NEWS.

A three-year old daughter of Mr. Henry House, of Rundel's, Crawford county, was scalded to death on Wednesday, by falling into a pail of hot water left standing on the floor.

Dan Rice will make his annual "farewell tour" through the country with a menagerie, next season.

A mineral spring, the waters of which contain valuable medical properties, was recently discovered on the farm of William B. Humbert, at Summit Mills, Somerset county. The owner purposes to erect suitable buildings immediately, and open a summer resort next season.

Capt. John S. Stuckey, Associate Judge for Bedford county, has resigned, and will go to Nebraska to reside early in the spring.

The *Sharon Times* says: The Keel Ridge furnace is blowing out, on account of the uncertainty of the coal supply. We very much fear that other furnaces in the valley will be obliged to follow the example of the Keel Ridge.

On Saturday evening last, while Mrs. Wm. McDonald, of Huntingdon, temporarily left her house, an unknown person entered the house and kidnapped therefrom a little two year old daughter. Search was at once instituted, and the cry of the child soon attracted the attention of a person to the lot of a near neighbor, where the little waif was found covered over with straw. Had it not been discovered, it would soon have frozen to death.

George Elliott, of Tyrone, died suddenly of heart disease on the 13th inst., aged about 50 years.

Ruel Wray, of Brighton township, Beaver county, was thrown from a horse on Sunday last, and received injuries which caused his death on Monday.

The presses and material of the Bellefonte *Republican* were sold at sheriff's sale on Monday of last week, and purchased by General Beaver, for $2,000 The title and good will of the concern were not included in the sale, and there is nothing to prevent the former proprietors starting a new paper under the old name, if they desire to do so.

A son of Mr. Richard Hoodam, of Blairsville, was drowned in the Conemaugh Saturday last.

Dr. Benjamin Mishler, of Lancaster, received on Friday from a gentleman, living on the Susquehanna river, a queer kind of fish. It looks like a crocodile, for that matter. Its tail looks like the tail of a catfish from the head down, but it has four well-defined legs and feet, protruding from under its body, while the head has a flat, snake-like appearance. It's a queer fish, at most.

John Carlin, somewhat demented, being surprised at a well in Phœnixville, *jumped into the opening*, which is some 60 or 70 feet deep. He was fished out as well as usual.

A lady at New Bloomfield made a wood fire in a stove, the other day, and, hearing a strange hissing noise soon after, she opened the stove door, when out came a burning snake some two feet in length. It is supposed the reptile had taken quarters for the winter in the wood.

The extensive distillery of Gibson & Sons, on the Monongahela, below Bellevernon, in Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, has stopped operation. This firm has been distilling from two hundred and fifty to five hundred bushels of grain daily, making from one thousand to fifteen hundred gallons daily. They paid $500 to $700 revenue tax every day.

The Uniontown *Standard* says. The yield of the Dunbar furnace for October was 1,019 tons, and in November 1,068 tons. Had it not been for a stoppage of forty-eight hours in the latter months, to repair old boilers, the yield would probably have been 1,200 tons. The ores charged were one-fifth lake and the balance native ore, the admixture averaging fifty per cent. of iron. One day gave the remarkable run of 53 tons. This product from a furnace 58 feet high and 15 feet 6 inches in bosh is certainly most creditable, and if we are not mistaken, is as good work as has been done in this country. With their new boilers and engine, Dunbar can produce 1,500 tons per month.

The conundrum now puzzling the Johnstown mind is, who will get the appointment of postmaster? There are quite a number of candidates for the place, including two ladies—Mrs. Ogle and Mrs. Keemle.

A Mr. Jackson, of Monongahela City, and Adam Jacobs, Jr., have leased the rolling mill part of the "old Shoenberger" property, in Brownsville, and are going to commence the manufacture of iron very soon. They expect to employ forty or fifty men, and will turn out from eight to ten tons of iron per day.

A machine shop is being built on the Hester farm, one mile from St. Petersburg.

A man named Murray, from Crawford county, received internal injuries from a fall while engaged in a friendly bout at wrestling at Petrolia, last week, which have since caused his death.

Conneaut thieves steal to doors from unoccupied houses. They should carry off the buildings, too.

Emperor William of Germany has announced his intention to give to the German Reformed Church in Titusville one of the cannon captured from the French during the late war. Are the canons of the church to be turned into cannon laws?

E. W. Lightner, Esq., has sold his paper, the Greenville *Advance*, to Hon. James C. Brown, who will hereafter conduct it.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

OIL CITY, PA., December 20, 1872.

The river is rare is closed with ice. There have been no rains and no rise since last report.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—River seven feet six inches and rising. Weather cold and clear.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—River stationary, with three feet six inches in the canal, and eighteen inches in the Indiana chute. The Indiana packet left this morning for the bank and discharged her crew. Navigation suspended above and below. Very cold.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, December 20.—The river rising rapidly, with four feet on Harpeth Shoals. Weather clear and cold. The steamers Johnson and Brandford departed for the upper Cumberland.

Evansville.

EVANSVILLE, IND., December 20.—Cloudy and cold; ground covered with ice an inch thick. River falling. Three feet in the falls and nine inches. Mercury 22 degrees. Departed—Up—Leather Nos 3 and 4, Mary Houghton, Rodefeld, Quickstep, Florence Lee and Tarascon; with tows.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, December 20.—River falling slowly and still full of heavy ice. Weather clear and cold with good sleighing.

Cairo.

CAIRO, ILL., December 20.—Arrived—Jovan Powell, Ohio River, Pittsburgh; Commodore Rich, Ohio River, Cincinnati; New Orleans, The river has fallen three inches. Weather cold. Mercury 22 degrees.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—Clear and cold. River declining. Arrived—Mayflower, to Orleans; An ly Hawes, Cumberland. Departed—Armadillo and Pink Varble, New Orleans; Hope, Cumberland river and Chester (in evening, Ike Thomas, Cincinnati.

Vicksburg.

VICKSBURG, MISS., December 20.—Down—Indiana. Up —James Howard, Arkansas. The eighteenth the bank caved in on the steamer Indiana at Tucker Landing, near Island 86, breaking the steamer in two, and her larboard guards. Some cattle and cotton knocked overboard. No lives lost. Departed—Orleans.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Arrived—Bob Lee, Memphis. Departed—E. H. Durfee, Ohio River. Weather cloudy and cool.

COTTON MARKETS.

Savannah.

SAVANNAH, December 20.—Cotton quiet and firm; ordinary 17½c; good ordinary 19½c; low middling 20½c; middlings 21½c; receipts 2,896 bales; exports—Great Britain 4,345 bales; coastwise 1,000 bales; sales 1,961 bales; stock 34,406 bales; weekly net receipts 9,216 bales; exports—Great Britain 9,410 bales; coastwise 9,065 bales; sales 14,450 bales.

Galveston.

GALVESTON, December 20.—Cotton steady; net receipts 1,200 bales; gross 1,500 bales; exports—coastwise 74,343 bales; weekly net receipts 8,924 bales; exports—Great Britain 4,345 bales; coastwise 4,579 bales; stock 31,000 bales; weekly net receipts 9,216 bales; exports—Great Britain 9,410 bales; coastwise 9,065 bales; sales 14,450 bales.

Charleston.

CHARLESTON, December 20.—Cotton quiet; net receipts 2,726 bales; exports—coastwise 2,340 bales; sales 700 bales; stock 42,231 bales; weekly net receipts 16,000 bales; exports—Great Britain 4,252 bales; coastwise 964 bales; coastwise 7,960 bales; sales 7,200 bales.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, December 20.—Cattle—Receipts 1,000 head; market very quiet and a few medium to choice steers sold at $4 75@5 00. Texans at $3 75@4 50; shipments yesterday 98 head. Hogs—Receipts 21,000 head; bulk of receipts came in late at the close; market delayed by snow; market ruled strong and lighter; range $3 50@3 90; mostly $3 60@3 80; shipments 2,500 head.

NON-EXPLOSIVE FLUID.

Hearing Before the Mayor in the Case of Weisenberger & Co.—The Case Dismissed on Account of an Informality in the Notice—Another Notice Served, &c.

At three o'clock yesterday afternoon the case of the Commonwealth vs. P. Weisenberger & Co., charged with storing combustible material in the second story of the premises No. 84 Smithfield street, came up for a hearing before Mayor Blackmore. W. D. Moore, Esq., appeared for the prosecution, and Jno. Barton, Esq., for the defense.

In the opening of the case Mr. Moore stated that he would endeavor to prove that the material known as "Genuine, Non-explosive Burning Fluid," manufactured by P. Weisenberger & Co., was a dangerous and combustible article, the storage of which, under an act of Assembly, was forbidden by law.

Mr. Barton—As there appears to be no papers in the case, we would like to know who is prosecuting the case. Is it the Commonwealth, the county, the city or the Fire Marshal?

Mr. Moore—As the act of Assembly had been prepared expressly for Allegheny county, I am of opinion that the county should appear on the information as prosecutor.

Mr. Barton—Then I suppose the case comes up as an ordinary suit for the non-payment of a debt.

Mr. Moore—So I think.

Mr. Barton—I would remark to your Honor that the act of Assembly referred to is one of the most extraordinary I have ever read. It empowers the Fire Marshal to enter any livery stable, board yard, tallow-chandler's factory, and order the removal of "anything combustible"—anything that will burn. Why, he has it in his power to paralyze the business of our whole city. A peddler might congregate, and the marshal could go down to the wharf and order one of your Honor's boats to be moved away, if he saw fit. Moreover, as there is no city ordinance under the act, I question if your Honor has jurisdiction in the case.

Mr. Moore—Oh! there can be no question of that. Such an assertion is ridiculous—it is mere.

The Mayor—Let the case on. If the Mayor has no jurisdiction you have your proper remedy.

Fire Marshal Butler was then sworn.—Am Fire Fire Marshal of Allegheny county; left a written notice with defendants to remove—

Mr. Barton—We do not want to know what was in the notice. We want to see it.

Mr. Moore—The notice having been left with the defendants how can we be expected to produce it. We have the right to prove that notice was given.

The Mayor—Mr. Butler did you leave a notice with Weisenberger & Co.

Witness—I did; I allowed them five days to remove the material which they were selling; am of opinion that the material was dangerous; it was known as the "Keystone Non-explosive Burning Fluid;" saw some of the fluid which was purchased at Mr. Lippincott's store by Mr. Wm. Moody; I received the fluid in a bottle from Mr. Lippincott; have some of the fluid here; (witness produces some of the fluid in a bottle); have seen some of this same fluid tested.

To Mr. Barton—I am not an expert in the oil business.

Counsel for defense here objected to the witness testifying unless it was proved that he could be ranked that he was not an expert, and could therefore tell nothing of its qualities.

Mr. Moore—May it please your Honor, it is not necessary that the witness should be an expert in order to testify in this case. He has been present when several experiments were made with the fluid, and he can certainly tell the result of those experiments without being an expert. A man might see another man place a piece of gun cotton on an anvil and explode it by striking it with a hammer; he would be perfectly competent to testify to what he saw. It would not be necessary for him to be able to give an analysis of the cotton. So in this case, Mr. Butler can tell to the Court just what he saw done with the fluid.

The Mayor ruled that the evidence would be proper. (Objection noted.)

Witness continued—Saw the oil tested in a store corner of Third avenue and Smithfield street; (a tin box was produced) a few drops of the fluid was placed in this box and the lid put on; the fluid was then ignited through a hole in the bottom of the box; the lid was immediately blown a distance of seven or eight feet into the air; poured some of the oil on the stone floor of a room in the Custom House in spots about eighteen inches apart; one of the quantities was lighted and immediately the other one took fire from it; saw some of the fluid put in a shallow vessel; water was poured upon it; the mixture took fire from a piece of lighted paper held at a distance of two or three inches from the liquid; saw some of the fluid tested; it was put under water and within an inch of the surface.

To Mr. Barton—Am not personally of no accidents resulting from the use of this fluid; have been informed of a number of fatal and severe accidents.

Mr. Barton—We do not want to know what you have been informed—only what you know of your own personal knowledge.

Witness—I have no personal knowledge of any accidents resulting from its use.

Mr. Barton—(Producing notice) Is that the notice you served on Weisenberger & Co.?

Witness—I believe that is it.

Mr. Barton—The notice is simply to the effect that the said party of the premises, No. 84 Smithfield street, contains combustible material, and notifying defendants to remove the same within five days.

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Witness—It would take some time to tell.

Mr. Moore—The witness need not answer. It is not relative to the case, and certainly not pertinent to the case.

The Mayor so ruled. Mr. Barton continued the cross-examination of the witness, but nothing of value to the can before exploding it; did not tell Mr. Weisenberger that a can of the fluid had passed through a fire in Allegheny, and that I had formation of the kind that I had ever met; (can produce) think I have seen that can before; have passed through the fire but I could not say that it contained Keystone burning fluid.

At this point Mr. Moore, after reading the notice which the Fire Marshal had served upon Weisenberger & Co., and had in company with the act of Assembly, discovered that it had not been drawn in accordance therewith, and so announced to the Mayor.

A sudden termination was then reached, the Mayor dismissing the case until the 30th inst., when Weisenberger & Co. will be present to answer to a new notice. Mr. Moore then drew up another notice, in proper form, and the Fire Marshal served it upon Mr. Payne, one of the representatives of Weisenberger & Co., who was present at the hearing.

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Among the articles appropriate for holiday presents on account of their intrinsic value, elegance and beauty, may be enumerated gold hunting and open faced silver watches, stem and key winders, of all standard makers; gentlemen's gold and guard chains; solitaire and cluster diamond pins and rings; Roman sand and chain bracelets; cameo, coral and Roman gold sets; gold lockets, gold and silver Roman crosses, silver ware, clocks, etc., etc. The firm have a specialty of optical goods and also have on hand a full line of eye glasses, opera glasses, etc. If any of our readers design making holiday presents to their friends we know of no similar establishment where they can find a more elegant or unobjectionable assortment from which to make the one designated. Their establishment is well worth a visit if for nothing else than to see the fine display of goods there presented. Visitors always receive courteous treatment whether or not they conclude to purchase.

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THE ESCAPED PRISONERS.

Rumored Trace of Carmichael—He is Reported as at Sea—Nothing Heard of Bush—Story of the Escape.

An official in this city has received what purports to be positive information in regard to the escape and subsequent adventures of the man Carmichael, who, with his companion Bush, immortalized their way out of the penitentiary some days ago. It is alleged that after the two men had effected their escape, which they did about midnight, and not daylight as reported, they separated. Carmichael proceeded toward Plum township, where it is said he has friends residing. He visited a house where an old companion of his had formerly lived, but the party he was in search of had moved, and strangers to the visitor occupied the premises. He quickly departed from this house, and subsequently was sheltered for two days in a barn on the premises of another friend. Here he changed his clothing, which had consisted of nothing but his prison suit and one of the blankets from his bed in the penitentiary, which he had wrapped around his shoulders. On the night of the second day which Carmichael had been in Plum township, he left his friend's barn, and disguising himself as much as possible, traveled stealthily to New York, where he took passage on a steamer bound for Liverpool, and which sailed on last Saturday. If this story is true, Carmichael is now on the Atlantic Ocean, and if he has had fair weather should, at the present writing, be somewhere near the western coast of Ireland.

The parties from whom the above information was received state that in the making of the tunnel Carmichael did all the digging, while Bush was continually on the watch. Whenever any of the keepers would near the cell door Bush would give as a signal three light taps. Then the miner would suspend operations until the coast was clear and he could continue. Several times they had determined to give up the job, but ever and anon the desire for liberty would stimulate them to renew their efforts. Some of the dirt was placed in the excavation found under the cell floor, some of it placed in the mattress of the prisoners bed, and but a small quantity was disposed of by means of the water closet.

It may be that the story given above is the invention of some friends of the convict, who may yet be in this country, with a view to screen him from arrest. It is given only for what it is worth. Nothing has been reported of Bush since his escape.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Stowe.

In the case of Thomas Dunn and others, indicted for riot at a picnic at Friendship Grove, on the 5th of July last, the jury acquitted Maurice Wallace, George Siegfried, Jacob Kirsch and Daniel Driscoll, and stated that they were unable to agree as to the other defendants, Dunn, Tilley, Monan, Murray and Reed. The jury were discharged from the further consideration of the case.

James Cox, Robert McGarvey and Wm. Henry were tried for entering the dwelling of Mr. R. Crumpton with intent to commit a felony, and also with receiving stolen goods. The jury acquitted McGarvey and Henry, and convicted Cox of receiving stolen goods. The defendants are all boys.

James Haley, the individual who was shot in an attempt to enter the dwelling house of Mr. McElroy, on Highland avenue, in the Nineteenth ward, in October last, was called for trial. The defendant, with two others, was detected in his burglarious attempt, and on stealing a bottle of wine with a hammer; he would be perfectly competent to testify to what he saw. It would not be necessary for him to be able to give an analysis of the cotton. So in this case, Mr. Butler can tell to the Court just what he saw done with the fluid.

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HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Presentation Books at Gildenfenney & Hess's.

There can be no more appropriate or valuable present for old or young, than a book. Be it an interesting and instructive book. The treasures which it may contain, when developed by the mind of its possessor, may be worth more than gold. It may prove a source of pleasure and gratification in prosperity, and a companion and comforter in the bitter hour of adversity, when friends are but few. The value of a good book is inestimable. Then, relative or friend with a token of your esteem during the holiday season, we can suggest no more appropriate one than a good and useful book. Consult your taste and that of the person who is to be the recipient in its selection, but by all means visit the establishment where the greatest variety and the most elegant assortment is to be found. Our readers need scarcely be reminded that we mean the store of Gildenfenney & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue, where all the standard authors will be found in all styles of binding, and many editions of them illustrated.

Whether you want religious works, historical works, poetry, fiction, pathology of travels, you will find whatever is best suited to your requirements at the place designated. If you would purchase a bible, you will find them, large and small, with clasps and without clasps, in every style of binding, gilt and plain, costly and cheap, in the greatest profusion. If you admire poetry you will find the most complete line of poetical works in the city, embracing those of all celebrated British and American poets. Devotional books, such as Episcopal prayer books, etc., can be found in all styles and at all prices. All the humorous books of the day, suitable for the holidays, will be found upon the shelves. Picture books for the children, many of the most elegant ever published, will be seen in almost endless variety. The assortment of albums is particularly fine, and especially deserving of mention, and at the same time of the Coast Sands and children's Stands; also, three large awning frames Remember, as the time is short, call early and secure bargains.

Remember the Star of the West Clothing Hall, No. 169, corner of Sixth and Liberty streets, Pittsburgh, Penn.

A. ARONSON,
Clothier and Merchant Tailor.

Hurrah! Hurrah!

for Christmas and New Years. Grand Preparations for the reception of Santa Claus at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street.

Library Ink Stands

in Bronze and French Glass, at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s.

Choice Holiday Goods.

Our Allegheny readers will find at the Jewelry Establishment of Mr. S. M. Orr, No. 134 Federal street, Allegheny city, a very fine and well selected stock of choice jewelry, consisting of fine gold and silver watches, lockets, breastpins, ear and finger rings, sleeve buttons, studs, &c., &c. Mr. Orr has long been noted for the excellent quality of his goods, and the low prices at which he sells them. If you want to make a holiday present visit the establishment and examine the goods.

Musical Albums

At J. R. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street.

Prayer Books.

If you want to look at the finest Episcopal prayer books to be seen in this city go to Gildenfenney & Hess, 45 Fifth avenue.

New Books.

Back Log Studies, by author of "Saunterings" and Summer in a Garden.....$2 00
Romance of the Harem.....2 00
Ugly Girls, by Virginia F. Townsend.....1 50
The Mounting Girl, by Mrs. Cheney.....1 50
American Pioneers, by Jacob Abbott—Miles Standish.....1 50
Biblical Museum—Luke and John.....1 50
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea.....2 00
Shaw Strange, by Miss Alcott.....1 50
Camping Out.....1 50
Left on Labrador.....1 50
Off to the Geysers.....1 50
Off the Skeilgs, Jean Ingelow.....1 75

S. A. CLARKE & CO.,
115 Wood street.

Picture Books—Picture Books

at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s.

5,000 Volumes

of juvenile books; also, fine Bibles and albums selling at *half price* at McIlwaine's auction room, by M. Tratt.

The Late Fire

In the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, caused no suspension of business.

Fairy Tales.

Price $10 50, Beautifully Illustrated. J. R. Weldin & Co., 101 Wood.

Call To-day

At S. A. Clarke & Co.'s book store, for books of all sorts, sizes and descriptions.

United States Watch Company.

This company has, by its excellent goods, held the leading position among manufacturers. At the fairs held in different parts of the country, where all kinds of articles remain in competition in this line, the Marion (alias, Wales & Co.,) United States watches have been awarded the highest premium. Any of our readers desiring full information concerning the workings of this company can obtain it by calling on Henry E. Eggers, secretary, at the office, No. 24 Ohio street, Allegheny city.

The American

Can do several kinds of sewing not done on any other machine. Please call and see it before any others could do. For sale by James Espy, No. 178 Liberty street.

Musical Albums

At J. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street.

Christmas Presents at Reed's.

Those interested in purchasing holiday gifts need hardly be reminded that the splendid stock of Messrs. R. Reed & Co., the well known jewelers at No. 69 Fifth avenue, cannot be excelled either for quality or can be found. The reputation of this establishment is so extended and so genuine, that a reminder is all that is needed. Always—and only during the holiday season, but at all other seasons—is the stock here full and varied, and the prices the minimum of most desirable styles of everything in their line. Thoroughly reliable in all its dealings, the firm has well earned the well deserved popularity it has by

Books! Books!

Beautiful books at J. R. Weldin & Co